

NYPL RESEARCH LIBRARIES



3 3433 06249594 4

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2008 with funding from
Microsoft Corporation

IR
Bunoon

PEN AND INK PORTRAITS
OF THE
SENATORS, ASSEMBLYMEN,
AND
STATE OFFICERS,
OF THE
STATE OF NEW YORK.

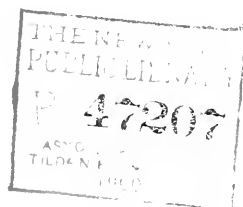
BY G. W. BUNGAY,

Author of "Crayon Sketches, or Off-Hand Takings," "Nebraska," "The
Know Nothing," "Pulpit Sketches," etc.



ALBANY:
J. MUNSELL, PRINTER, 78 STATE STREET.
1857.

10013



PEN AND INK PORTRAITS.

E. W. ABBOTT,

The subject of this sketch, was born at Hopkinton, St. Lawrence county, July 26th, 1819, and is, consequently, thirty-seven years of age. He is a farmer and trader.

His early political associations were Democratic; but his democracy was of the old Jeffersonian school. He supported Martin Van Buren in '48, but when, in '49, the two sections of the democracy united, he refused to abandon the flag of freedom, to enlist under the black banner of oppression. In '52 he supported John P. Hale for the presidency.

Mr. Abbott was first elected to the Legislature in the fall of '55, and served with so much fidelity to his constituents and credit to himself that he was unanimously re-nominated, and re-elected by over *eighteen hundred majority*. He is chairman of the committee on engrossed bills.

Mr. Abbott's religion is of the practical kind, consisting of deeds, not professions. Firm and decided in his convictions, he can never be swerved from what he considers to be right and proper. He was a warm supporter of Preston King for United States Senator.

He is about five feet five inches in height, has a pleasant countenance—brown hair and brown eyes—seldom speaks in public, but can think and work in the harness of liberty.

Mr. Abbott is the architect and builder of his own fortune. He was a poor boy, but owing to his industrious habits has secured a comfortable competency, has been supervisor of the town, justice of the peace, &c.

S. CAREY ADAMS,

One of the most useful, valuable and trustworthy members of the House, represents the Fourth District in Erie county. He was a Whig until '48, when he mounted the Buffalo platform, and has ever since that time been a Free Soiler. He was six years town superintendent of schools in the town of Collins, where he lives, also supervisor of the town for two years; also clerk of the board of supervisors two years. Last fall he was elected to the Assembly by a majority of four

hundred votes. He is a member of the committee on Indian affairs, also of the sub-committee of the whole. He rarely speaks, but when he rises in his place he speaks to some purpose. He attends the Methodist church, is a carpenter by trade, has taught school—now follows daguerreotyping. Mr. Adams is thirty-six years of age, is a native of Columbia county, a man of ordinary stature, pale complexion, light blue eyes, brown hair, and a face of transparent honesty. He is an out-and-out temperance man, and has as much influence as a score of men who are bobbing up and down during every session of the House. He has a good head on his shoulders, and a brave heart in his bosom. He is a self-taught man, having devoted his leisure time to study, and takes a deep interest in the great questions of the day.

DARIUS ALLEN,

The member of the present Legislature, from the city of Troy, county of Rensselaer, is a true specimen of what may be attained by individual effort and untiring energy. He was born in the city of Troy in 1810, of humble parentage, and at the age of four years left an orphan; he then went to reside with an uncle, and it may truly be said that he was "brought up at the plow tail," being wholly deprived of the advantages to be acquired at the then district school.

Having attained his majority he commenced political life as a Democrat, and was frequently elected to offices of honor and trust in the town where he resided, performing their various duties alike creditable to himself and satisfactorily to his constituents.

Removing to the city of Troy his democratic "faith" would not permit him to remain idle, and his "works" for the success of the democratic party soon became manifest in his being elected first a supervisor and subsequently a member of the common council, although the ward in which he resided was deemed a stronghold of the opposition, and at the election last fall he was elected to represent the people of the city of Troy in the Assembly of this state, the records of which abundantly show that the industry and attention to legislative matters consequent upon success, are not wanting in their representative.

Although a Democrat of the "straitest sect" and a shrewd politician, the "pomp and circumstance of glorious war" attracted his attention at an early day, and he has risen successively from the ranks to the position which he now holds, that of brigadier general, commanding the tenth brigade of the military of this state.

By a strict attention to business and an inflexible integrity which secures confidence among men, Gen. Allen stands now the successful merchant, an able general and an honorable and upright legislator, who has won the esteem of his associates by his ease of address and frankness of manner in their associations.

In person Mr. Allen is well formed, rather above the medium stature, has brown hair, blue eyes, a round thoughtful face, the features of which indicate earnestness, energy and decision of character. Any person can discover at a glance that he is not a man to be trifled with;

but he is a true friend who always maintains the character and dignity of a gentleman.

LEONARD AMES

Comes from Mexico—not that section of North America which has been the bone of contention in Congress, but a “smart” town in the empire state. He is about thirty years of age; was formerly a Whig of the Seward stripe. Luke Smith was his opponent in the late canvass, and it was playfully said that although Luke could play “brag” to the best advantage, Leonard would win the game at the ballot-box, and the remark is now numbered among the truths told in a joke.

Mr. Ames is a private banker and farmer of considerable substance, and a temperance man from principle. He is a shrewd politician, not given to speech-making, and is not expected to become a floor member. He is a man of common size; wears a round, pleasant face; is sociable, friendly and agreeable, and will discharge the duties of his office with honor to himself and credit to his constituents. This is his first appearance in public life. He belongs to a family distinguished for their excellent morality and strong common sense. May they ever *aim* at the right, and never miss the mark.

Mr. Ames is on the committee of insurance.

JOSEPH ATWATER,

A name suggestive of good habits—and the good book says that a “good name is rather to be chosen than choice silver.” Mr. Atwater is a native of Homer, Courtland county; was brought up on a farm, but has devoted several years of his life to teaching; has been supervisor of the town in which he lives; superintendent of common schools; justice of the peace, &c. He attends the Congregational church; was formerly a Whig, but now ranks himself with the Republican army. He is a quiet but industrious member, and hostile to all the flam and sham of Buncombe oratory. Mr. Atwater is forty-three years of age, of common size and stature; has a round, pleasant face, sharp-brown eyes, dark hair and auburn whiskers. He is on the committee of engrossed bills and on the joint library committee. Of course he is friendly to the temperance movement, or he would not be worthy the name he wears.

TOBIAS BOUCK

Represents the First District of Schoharie county, where he earned a reputation for unswerving integrity and true courage, while acting—first as undersheriff, and afterwards sheriff of the county during the anti-rent war, when it was as much as a man’s life was worth to attempt to execute the laws.

He is a Democrat, opposed to the Maine law, a farmer, attends the Dutch Reformed church, is fifty years of age, and of common stature; his face indicates unyielding firmness and daring courage. He is a nephew of Ex-Governor Bouck, and is worthy of the honored name he bears.

Mr. Bouck was born in 1806 in Schoharie county. His father died when he was two years of age; when a mere lad he was induced to make efforts to improve his mind, working during the summer season and studying during the winter months. At the age of sixteen he learned a trade; was married at twenty-four and tried his fortune at farming. In 1842 he had the misfortune to lose a large sum of money, the accumulated earnings and savings of years of industry and economy; but he was not discouraged; like a true hero he commenced the battle of life again, and in a few years paid his debts and acquired a handsome estate. He is on the committee of roads and bridges, and on internal affairs of towns and counties; is always at his seat, rain or shine, and spends much of his time at his desk during the recess between the sessions.

HEZEKIAH BAKER.

Mr. Baker's father was of English descent and came from Rhode Island where his ancestors had lived for a long time before the revolutionary war, about the year 1796, and settled for a short time in Rensselaer county, from whence he afterwards removed to the county of Montgomery, where the subject of this sketch was born and now lives. His mother was of Welch descent, her ancestors having emigrated to the state of New York a little before the revolution.

Mr. Baker's parents being poor, and having a large family to support, gave him away to an uncle by marriage to his father's sister, with whom he lived for some four or five years.

Soon after going to live with his uncle his father died, leaving his mother with a large family of children to support, without any means to do it with; this occurred before Mr. Baker's recollection, as he has no distinct recollection of his father.

During the time he lived with his uncle he attended a common school about two months each winter, acquiring the elements of reading, writing and arithmetic, though in quite a limited degree.

One of the earliest incidents of which Mr. B. has any recollection, was a fight on the first day of his attendance at school with a young man who had insulted him and attempted to bully him—an incident illustrative of one of the predominant traits in his character, resistance against the overbearing and tyrannical.

After living with his uncle for four or five years, near Hagaman's mills in Montgomery county, he became discontented with his situation and prospects, and ran away from his uncle and aunt against their wishes, and hired out by the month to work on a farm at stipulated wages for some two years, after which he entered into an agreement with a gentleman to learn the shoemaking trade, by which he was to work for three years at wages scarcely sufficient to keep him in clothes and without any schooling. He continued at that trade for about two years learning with rapidity and ease, but finding he had made a hard bargain, and becoming disgusted with the irksome monotony of the shop and the subjection of his apprenticeship, made a new bargain with his "boss," by which he bought the unexpired part of his time at a sum much larger than it should have cost him, but which he fully paid and satisfied.

Having bought and paid for his time and getting a release from his "boss," he began the study of the higher branches of English education, and after pursuing the same for a few months commenced teaching a common school in the county of Fulton.

At the time Mr. B. began to teach, he was wholly deficient in some branches and but poorly qualified in others, for the duties he assumed; yet by constant and hopeful efforts and industry, he soon acquired such a practical facility in imparting his knowledge with precision and logical clearness, as to become a very successful teacher. He continued teaching, filling up his vacations and intervals while not teaching, with studying latin and the higher branches of mathematics and mental, moral and natural philosophy, until the spring of 1842.

Mr. B's. natural taste led him to the study of metaphysical and moral science, to which he devoted himself with the greatest zest.

In the spring of 1842, he began the study of law at Johnston, Fulton county, with the Hon. Donald McIntyre, then first judge of the Court of Common Pleas of that county, where he continued under the instruction of Judge McIntyre (who was a gentleman of fine legal attainments, a well balanced and cultivated mind), until the year 1845, when he was elected a justice of the peace, to fill a vacancy of about two years; at the same time continuing his legal studies in the office of George Yost, Esq., until the spring of 1846. when Mr. Yost removing to Fort Plain, Montgomery county, Mr. B. went into the office of John Wells of Johnstown, and there remained till October of the same year, when he was examined and admitted as an attorney at the general term of the Supreme Court held at Rochester.

During the whole time of his legal studies Mr. B. was so poor that he was obliged to keep bachelor's hall, to live within his means; contributing at the same time to the support and education of a sister.

After his admission as an attorney of the Supreme Court he remained at Johnstown until the spring of 1847, when he removed to and settled at St. Johnsville in Montgomery county, where he still resides. Having no means to purchase a library he borrowed a small sum, which he laid out in the purchase of a few practical works and then waited patiently until his business afforded him the means of enlarging his library, which he has gradually done until he has a fair country library.

Mr. B. has had a fair professional business and success from the time he began; but has never had any extraordinary incidents of a professional character.

As a lawyer he enjoys the reputation of a sound judgment for legal discrimination, acuteness in discovering the mental and moral characteristics of witnesses and jurors, and the legal weight and bearing of evidence in a case. His arguments before a jury or court are directed more by the reasoning of his own mind than by the authority of books. He enjoys the confidence of all who know him, for his love of justice and fidelity to his client.

In November, 1853, Mr. B. was elected a member of Assembly from the Second District in Montgomery county, by the Whig party.

He was opposed by Doct. Uriah Potter, a Free Soil Maine Law Democrat, and by Urelus Birge, a Hunker Anti-Maine Law Democrat, both of Minden, Montgomery county; Mr. Baker receiving 1168, Mr. Birge, 629, and Mr. Potter 607 votes.

He was appointed chairman of the standing committee on privileges and elections, and a member of the judiciary committee for the session of 1854. There were two contested seats in the Assembly that year.

A large majority of both Houses of the party to which Mr. B. belonged were in favor of the Maine law, but at an early period of the debates on that question, Mr. B. took a bold and uncompromising stand against the law, on the ground of its unconstitutionality, that it is impolitic and premature, against the popular will, and unjust and immoral in its effects upon the public mind, and that its passage would retard the progress of true reform.

In all his discussions on this subject, Mr. B. denounced drunkenness as a vice, and declared it the duty of the government to punish it as such. The veto message of Governor Seymour returning the bill to the House, embraced substantially Mr. B.'s arguments in a more elaborate and finished form.

Among the projects of that year was the passage of a law to incorporate companies to navigate the lakes, rivers and canals of the state; Mr. B. opposed it as a measure to build up monopolies and depress boatmen of small means. He made a good speech on the subject, but the press being friendly to the measure never published it.

He took an active part in aiding the passage of the bill to facilitate the acquisition of surgical knowledge, allowing professors to procure bodies for dissection; made a good impromptu speech in its favor, and stood by it until it was perfected and passed, for which he received the thanks of Professor Paine, of the New York University, who had been long engaged in efforts to overcome the popular prejudice against the measure.

In this matter Mr. B. was opposed by some of his warmest personal friends, and some of the ablest men in the House, but stood as firm as a rock until the bill was carried through; but in this as in many other cases where Mr. B. was opposed to his friends he retained their respect and confidence.

Mr. B. was re-elected to the Assembly from his district again in November, 1854. At this election his principal opponent was Daniel S. Reid, who received the Democratic and Know Nothing vote of the district, except a few votes given for Mr. Pythagorus Wetmore, as a Free Soil Maine Law candidate. Mr. Baker received 1345, Mr. Reid, 1001, and Mr. Wetmore, 205.

At the following session of 1855, Mr. B. was appointed chairman of the judiciary committee and a member of a select committee on the governor's message relating to the detention of witnesses—a position given him on the ground of his being a progressive but conservative reformer; safe against hasty and injudicious legislation on the one hand, and ready for the adoption of any reform based upon sound and permanent principles on the other. This character he sustained to the entire satisfaction of his friends, during the session.

He again opposed the passage of the Maine Law with all his energy and influence on the same grounds as the year before, and on the further ground, that the courts and juries would refuse to enforce it; regulating their construction of the law by the higher law of popular feeling.

During this session Mr. B. was appointed a member of a joint committee "to ascertain the modes of procedure in the criminal courts, the office of the chief of police, station houses, penitentiaries, almshouses, and city prisons in the cities of New York and Brooklyn," and "to report what, if any further legislation is necessary for the suppression and punishment of crime, and the better protection of persons charged with crime."

He drafted the report of the committee which proposes certain alterations in the charter and police system of New York, not very palatable to his Hon., Mayor Wood, who is a zealous advocate of despotic political power.

Mr. B. was regarded as the head of the Anti-Maine Law party in the House; was a warm and earnest supporter of Wm. H. Seward for U. S. Senator, and exerted all his influence for his election; encouraging the timid, confirming the wavering, and animating the bold in favor of Mr. Seward, whom he regarded as one of the most enlightened and liberal of American statesmen, and the champion above all others of civil and religious liberty.

The debates on the Senatorial question elicited and called out all the talent and power of the House. Mr. B. made two bold and effective speeches in which he attacked the Know Nothing party—then in its rising power,—laying open the secret corruptions of that party in such a vivid and powerful manner, that many of his friends regarded his speeches as the death knell of that party. His speeches were delivered without any previous preparation, and elicited the general commendation of all who heard them; they were written out after their delivery and published in a pamphlet called "Senatorial Debates," but lost much of their power and ability in the process of reducing them to writing.

At the opening of that session, when the usual resolution inviting the clergymen to open the morning sessions with prayer was introduced, the Know Nothing portion of the House—being about 80 members—attempted to exclude the Catholics, but Mr. B. met the attempt with such energy, boldness and resolution, that he procured its modification so as to allow the speaker to invite clergymen without discrimination. Mr. B. opposed the intolerance of the Know Nothing party as anti-American, bigoted and illiberal.

In November, 1856, he again received the nomination for member from the Republican party; was opposed by Mr. L. B. Clark, a popular and influential Hunker Know Nothing, and by J. B. Ferguson, a Democrat. Mr. B. received 1478, Mr. Clark, 1327, and Mr. Ferguson, 330 votes.

In the present House Mr. B. is chairman of the committee on privileges and elections, and chairman of a select committee on the criminal code; he was also appointed a member of the judiciary committee on the 12th of March, 1857.

In person Mr. B. is 5 feet 8 inches high, weighs 135 lbs., has brown hair, blue eyes, a thin, spare face with a serious and thoughtful cast. In temperament, his is a happy mixture of the nervous, bilious and sanguine; he is candid, fearless, patient and humble; his friendships and resentments are strong and durable; his hope and caution are large; he believes in the Bible, and the doctrine of future rewards and punishments and the accountability of man; belongs to no church; has warm and devoted friends, and some bitter and relentless enemies who are sometimes converted into friends.

He is *yet* a bachelor; loves little children and believes in matrimony; has no ambition for political preferment; shrinks from all public display and notoriety; loves independence of personal character, and despises with a hearty and supreme contempt, the sycophantic satellite, who bends his pliant knee to power, "that thrift may follow fawning," above all the despicable characters to be found in the meanest class of the human race.

Mr. B. is regarded a ready and fluent debater, but requires opposition and provocation to display the powers with which nature has endowed him. His mode of argument is direct, simple and logical; meets his adversary in a direct manner, and despises evasion and sophistry as the low trickery of weak and dishonest minds.

FREDERICK P. BELLINGER.

The Hon. F. P. Bellinger is one of the "solid men" of Herkimer county. A farmer from choice; a politician by accident. He is a quiet, modest, stay-at-home sort of a man, who has become rich by minding his own business and won the confidence of his constituents by his unfaltering integrity.

In the course of the "even tenor of his life," he has frequently been honored by his fellow-citizens, who have elected him to posts of distinction. Though not an old man, he was in active service at the time Col. Stone edited his weekly journal in the village of Herkimer, and was intimately acquainted with that distinguished author, and was on the best of terms with Thurlow Weed when he worked at the case in Herkimer.

Squire Bellinger has been a prominent Democrat for many years. He was, and for aught we know, is now colonel of the militia.

Col. Bellinger served as a military officer at Sacketts Harbor in 1812 and 1814. He went to the Assembly in 1827, again in 1830, and again in 1849.

One year ago last fall he was nominated for State Senator in opposition to the nominee of the American party. Mr. Bellinger was elected by a very handsome majority of three thousand.

He has voted right every time, on every question that came before the Senate. He is a faithful public servant, always at the post of duty. He makes no pretensions to oratory—indeed he never made a speech in his life—but he can think, talk and vote.

Col. Bellinger is a large man, weighing about two hundred and twenty pounds; has a full, fresh, ruddy face and blue eyes. He is about sixty years of age. He represents the Sixteenth Senatorial District.

GEO. W. BRADFORD

Is a member of the Senate and the author and advocate of a bill for prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors. He was born in 1796, in the county of Otsego; is a practicing physician; studied in Cooperstown and was admitted to practice in 1819. He commenced the practice of his profession in the town of Homer, Cortland county, where he now resides. He cast his first vote in 1818 for De Witt Clinton, is now a Republican; was elected to a seat in the Assembly in 1852, and in 1854 was elected to a chair in the Senate, and was re-elected 1855. He represents the Twenty-third Senatorial District; belongs to the sixth generation of the direct lineal descendants of Governor Bradford, of Plymouth Rock memory; is about five feet eight inches in height; has dark hair touched with the frost of years, blue eyes, wears glasses over his eyes but never on his lips, being strictly temperate; shaves his face smooth; is a plain, quiet man, averse to noise and pomp; is chairman of the committee on medical societies, and on literature.

ERASTUS BROOKS

Is one of the best informed men in the Senate. No one there is better posted on parliamentary rules. He is a fluent and forcible debater, a graceful and vigorous writer, a generous and sociable man. He is the leader of the Know Nothing party in this state, and was its candidate for governor. He belongs to the "fifth avenoodles" and claims a high social position. He is a man of medium size, has hair black as a raven's wing and eyes to match; his large perceptive faculties give his forehead a retreating look. He is one of the editors and proprietors of the *New York Express*. He is chairman of the committee on cities and villages; on the committee on commerce and navigation, and on the select committee on the subject of a Prohibitory law. When a candidate for office he is not one of the running Brooks we read of. Mr. B. represents the Sixth Senatorial District.

AMOS BRIGGS.

Mr. Briggs is a noble looking old gentleman about sixty years of age; has soft silky grey hair; a strongly marked face; a short tuft of whiskers, a sort of compromise between the past and present fashion. He has a habit of contracting the muscles of the face when reading, which may be owing to a deficiency in eyesight. He is a very conscientious and honorable man, engaged in manufactures of some sort. He is chairman of the committee on manufactures, on the canal committee, and on the poor law committee.

P. B. BABCOCK

Represents the Second District of Oneida county. He was a Cass Democrat until the nomination of Buchanan, when he, together with several hundred others, united with the Republican party. He attends the Universalist church; is a farmer, the owner of a beautiful estate, although he commenced life poor and unaided by his friends. He was

town supervisor four years in succession. He is forty-two years of age, of ordinary stature, has a red, healthy face, dark hair and dark blue eyes. He is opposed to "prohibition." He is chairman of the committee on census, and a member of the committee on insurance. He is a very respectable man and attends faithfully to the duties of his office.

JEREMIAH S. BAKER

Was born in Rensselaer county; is forty-three years of age; a farmer. He was formerly a Whig, is now a Republican; is a Unitarian; has been Supervisor of the town; is a temperance man. In person he is well proportioned, being above the common height; is of the sanguine temperament, has light brown hair, auburn whiskers, large light eyes, and a long, healthy face, indicating firmness and unbending integrity. He is always at his post and looks well into the matters brought before the House. He is a faithful, efficient legislator. Is on the committee on engrossed bills; is a quiet, unassuming man, but has none the less influence on that account.

NICHOLAS BARIHYDT

Is well known to the traveling public as the popular and obliging host of the Eagle Hotel and public hall, in Schenectady. He is not engaged in that business at the present writing. He is of Dutch descent; forty-eight years of age; of the nervous temperament, with a touch of the sanguine; has light hair, greyish blue eyes; is a quiet, honest, earnest man; was formerly a Democrat, now votes with the Republican party. He represents the city and county of Schenectady, and is on the excise committee; has been an alderman of the city he represents, supervisor, &c. He attends the Dutch Reformed church, and maintains a high social position, while he retains the confidence and esteem of his political friends.

A. BELL

Is a very quiet, gentlemanly man—somewhat precise in his manner and particular in his dress. He is methodical, has a place for everything and everything in its place; has a sound and discriminating mind and a character above suspicion. In person he is of medium stature, is prematurely gray, has a fair, healthy face, mild blue eyes, narrow white whiskers, thin lips and an amiable expression of face. He was born in New Hampshire, 1810—emigrated to this state in 1827 and located in Alleghany county. After serving as a clerk in a mercantile house eight years, he commenced trade on his own account in Livingston county. After eight years' experience as a merchant he relinquished that calling and tried his hand in the furnace and machine business, which, after four years' trial, he exchanged for farming and lumbering.

He is in comfortable circumstances and commands the respect of a large number of friends and acquaintances. His first presidential ballot was cast for Andrew Jackson, his last for John C. Fremont. He is a Republican, a member of the Presbyterian church and a strict

temperance man in theory and practice. He is chairman of the committee of charitable and religious societies. He is a BELL who has the ring of true metal, though without a noisy tongue.

THOMAS P. BISHOP

Represents District No. 2 of Madison county. He was born in Dutchess county, on the 1st of January, 1800; has been a trader in Cazenovia for twenty years, but has now retired from business. He was a Democrat till '44, when he became an Abolitionist, voting for James G. Birney; in '48 he mounted the Buffalo platform, indulging the hope that John P. Hale would be the nominee for President, but went with a good heart for Martin Van Buren. In '49 he went back (he regrets it) to the Democratic ranks; did not vote for Franklin Pierce, but did vote for John P. Hale; joined the Republican party at its formation, and was a delegate to the state convention in September. He is on the committee of expenditures of the House.

He is a Bishop without a church, but liberal in his theological views; is a married man. In person he is of common stature, has brown hair somewhat silvered, smooth features, blue eyes, wears specs, is friendly, sociable, and fond of fun; a man of firmness and energy, and blessed with a good share of good common sense.

HORACE BOIES

Was born in Aurora, Erie county. Is now 29 years of age (looks not over 23); commenced the study of law at the age of 21, was admitted to practice in all the courts in about 18 months; commenced practice at the time of commencing study. Has emphatically worked his way from the commencement, early learning that he must depend upon his own exertions. Had but ordinary opportunities in the acquirement of education, but made the most of them. Has now an extensive practice in the village of White Corners, in the Third Assembly District of Erie, where he resides. Was elected by some 400 majority, running largely ahead of his ticket, especially in his own town (140). His father is of French descent, his mother of English.

Is five feet eight inches in height, weighs about 140; has complexion of ordinary cast, dark hair, and blue eyes that light up when engaged in animated or earnest discourse. Has spoken seldom during the session, but when speaking it is to the point and with an earnestness that secures attention and carries conviction. Makes friends of those who become acquainted with him. Is a worker and untiring. His prospects for the future are bright.

Is a temperance man from principle. Goes in for nothing that can not stand upon its merits. Generally attends Presbyterian church. Is now a widower; his wife died about fifteen months since; was married in early life; had two children left by her, the oldest, a boy some four years of age, being taken away within a few days past. Is a member of the select committee on the code, and at the head of the committee on aliens.

ROBERT B. BRADFORD.

His father was a Virginia farmer, and he himself was born in Culpepper county, Virginia; is now 24 years of age. He came to New York eighteen months ago, was appointed surgeon to the police department by Fernando Wood, and subsequently nominated by the Wood party for the Legislature. The first vote he ever gave was for Mr. Buchanan. His relatives in Virginia were all Henry Clay Whigs, and many of them leading members of that party. He belongs to one of the more aristocratic families in the "old dominion."

Dr. Bradford is a tall, prepossessing young man, of the sanguine nervous temperament; has brown hair, blue eyes, a round, pleasant face, wears a moustache, has a good voice, and the reputation of being a whole-souled, generous man, who improves on acquaintance. He has made one or two good speeches in the House. He is on the committee of medical societies and colleges.

ERASMUS D. BROOKS

Is from the Third District of St. Lawrence. He was formerly a Whig, is now a Republican. Was brought up in the mercantile business, but has now retired from active business.

He is 39 years of age, tall and well proportioned, has a fine, fresh countenance, large blue eyes, sandy hair, is prematurely bald. A man of excellent principles and good sense.

Mr. Brooks is a native of Shoreham, Addison county, Vermont. When quite young he removed to St. Lawrence county, New York. At the age of sixteen he entered Middlebury College, Vermont; when twenty-one he commenced mercantile pursuits. In 1841 he married the eldest daughter of the Hon. Jonah Sanford. Although not a member of any Christian church he is friendly to all denominations of evangelical Christians. He is on the committee of trade and manufactures; also on the committee of erection and division of towns and counties.

HEZEKIAH BALDWIN

Is the representative of the Second District of Greene county, resides in the town of Durham, is a farmer, thirty-eight years of age, of common stature, has brown hair, blue eyes and a ruddy healthy face; smooth features; wears a goatee. In politics he is a Republican, but was formerly a Whig; attends the Presbyterian church. He is on the committee on grievances and does not complain on that account. His grand-father on his mother's side was an officer in the revolutionary war; his grand-father on his father's side was also a revolutionary soldier.

HENRY W. BECKWITH.

This tall "son of York" represents with distinguished zeal and ability the county of Washington, one of the loveliest gardens of the state. When applied to for information for the purposes of this sketch, Mr. Beckwith, with a rare and becoming modesty, politely but firmly objected, remarking that it was no sort of consequence how old he was or where he was born. Nevertheless we have contrived to

pick up sufficient materials to "take his life", and will add our own views of his position, *personnel*, and peculiar characteristics. He is about 38 years of age, graduated at Union College, Schenectady, in 1839, and went immediately to the city of New York, where he commenced the practice of the law as one of the firm of Bradley, Mills & Beckwith. He gained no inconsiderable reputation at the bar, and accumulated quite a snug little fortune by his profession, which he relinquished four years ago, when he went to North Granville, Washington county, and settled down very quietly upon a farm, the "old homestead" where he was born. In this secluded spot, afar from the arena of forensic and political strife, he followed the independent and honorable vocation of a farmer, until the tocsin of freedom sounded and the republican party, like Minerva from the brain of Jove, sprung at once into full maturity and vigor. Then, like another Cincinnatus, he left the plough at the call of his country, and came to serve her in its councils. During the early part of the session he was remarkably quiet and unassuming for a man of his acknowledged ability, and his former friends, who knew his power, thought he was affected with chronic indolence. He was always in his seat and always voted right. The "lobby" very soon learn to know their men and they quickly gave him up as wholly impracticable, one who could not be induced by any considerations of policy or personal friendship to favor the passage of a bill that was not perfectly just and proper. His opposition to all schemes for plundering the state gained him an enviable distinction for integrity, and the harpies who flock like carrion around the strong box of the treasury, found in him a second "*Flagg*" stone over which they could never step. No "sop to Cerberus" could gain his vote or his acquiescence in the many iniquitous schemes before the Legislature, and we once heard him severely anathematized by these robbers as "a man opposed to all *liberal* legislation"—i. e. to the various projects for legislative plunder. This marked trait in his character gave him position at once, and when the sharp contest on the Quarantine removal had engaged the attention of the Assembly for a long time, he perfectly electrified the House by a speech of irresistible logic and stirring eloquence. His points were as clear, forcible and convincing, as his manner was earnest and impassioned, and that he largely influenced the result is evidenced by the fact that there were only two negative votes to the bill. He immediately took the front rank as an orator, with Judge Hogeboom and Speaker Littlejohn, and whenever he subsequently rose to address the House, he always commanded the attention, respect and confidence of the members. He has been closely identified with the principal leading measures before the Legislature. It is the concurrent opinion of those competent to judge that political honors are in store for him, much higher than he has yet attained. He is of a most amiable disposition and is regarded as an extremely "clever fellow" by all who know him. There is nothing of the "old fogey" about him. He is active, earnest and energetic. He is thoroughly democratic in his views and feelings and does not affiliate or sympathize with anything like aristocracy. His personal appearance is tall and commanding; he stands

something over six feet, is well proportioned, and altogether as noble a specimen of "Young America" as one would wish to meet. His constituents may well felicitate themselves upon having so faithful, efficient and popular a representative.

A. BERRY

Is from the First District in Chenango county; he resides in the town of Norwich, where he trades in wool, although it is an article which he does not pull over the eyes of his constituents. He is in fact a retired merchant; has political antecedents, were Whig, but is now an ardent Republican. He is a member of the Methodist church, a man of family and occupies a high position in all the relations of life. He is a native of Connecticut, came to this state in his youth and commenced the world bare-handed, but by diligence and enterprise he has acquired a handsome competency.

Mr. Berry is fifty-one years of age, of ordinary stature, has an amiable countenance, mild blue eyes, soft dark hair, turning gray: and short whiskers. He is a man of honest purpose and untiring industry. As a member of the committee of sixteen he is very efficient and useful. He is on the committee of the death penalty.

S. C. CUYLER.

S. C. Cuyler was born in Aurora, Cayuga county; is a son of Glen Cuyler, Esq., a lawyer who settled there at an early day. He is a farmer; resides in Pultneyville, Wayne county, where he removed some twenty years since. He represents the counties of Wayne and Cayuga, which compose the Twenty-fourth Senatorial District; was elected by 1,500 majority.

In the commencement of the anti-slavery enterprise some fifteen or twenty years since, he became interested in that cause; he was among the number who aided in forming the Liberty party, which was inaugurated in 1840, with the lamented Myron Holly at its head. He has devoted himself for many years to the work of arousing public attention to the enormities of slavery. He continued with that party till 1848, and then went, with many others, into the Free Soil movement; continued with them one year, when the party sold themselves to the Hunkers—Mr. C. would not ratify the bargain. He then acted with some anti-slavery friends, in an independent position till the Republican party was formed two years since. He is a temperance man, honest and faithful—is a real clever fellow, and to his credit be it spoken, never tasted intoxicating liquor in his life.

Mr. Cuyler wears a pleasant face; has sparkling blue eyes, which kindle in debate; he has a broad, high forehead, a pale countenance, and brown hair; is rather below the common size; is very active; speaks fluently, energetically and boldly for the right. He is a man of warm impulses; has a generous nature, and while he wins friends every day he never sacrifices one. He is prompt and bold and has the confidence of his party and the esteem of all his fellow legislators. He is chairman of the committee on salt; also a member of the Kansas com-

mittee, state prison committee, and of the committee on charitable and religious societies.

ZENAS CLARK,

For some years past an able Democratic Senator from St. Lawrence, now a Republican, lives at Pottsdam; did not want to run the last time he was nominated in consequence of ill health. He was elected in the face of an unscrupulous opposition. He is a true and faithful man; tall and erect, gray-haired, and about sixty-five years of age. He recently resigned in consequence of his rapidly failing health. His seat is now occupied by Bloomfield Usher, a banker from Pottsdam.

ELIAS W. CADY

Comes from the Second District of Tompkins county; was formerly a Whig, is now numbered with the Republicans, and works well in the ranks. He was a member of the Legislature in 1850; is a farmer, sixty-four years of age; a tall man, with thin face and gray hair; belongs to the Presbyterian church; is not a floor-member, but a constant worker for the welfare of his constituents. He is a member of the committee on salt. We judge he is a man of sound, common sense (a rare commodity now-a-days), and a man of unfaltering honesty of purpose.

C. N. CAMPBELL,

Representative from the Third District of Dutchess county, was born in the year 1825. At an early age an insatiable thirst for knowledge insinuated itself into his mind, and, although surrounded by adverse circumstances, yet by self-sacrifice, untiring effort, and assiduous application, he obtained a preparatory course of education, but for divers reasons was compelled to abandon the idea of entering college. He commenced the study of medicine, and graduated at the New York University in 1847, and located soon after in the town of Stanford, where he now resides, practicing his profession, in which he has been eminently successful. His political principles are Democratic, of which party he has ever been a consistent adherent.

Magnanimity of soul, integrity of purpose and an exemplary deportment, are characteristics happily blended in him, which, together with sound, discriminating judgment, urbanity of manner, a disposition and temperament at once confiding and enthusiastic, and noble and generous impulses, have surrounded him with a host of friends; these elements of popularity have secured to him the unabated confidence of an intelligent constituency, and indeed of all who possess his acquaintance. His present social and political position is attributable to his own uncompromising and praiseworthy individual exertions. He is a widower.

He is rather below the medium stature; has dark hair touched with silver, a pale face, blue eyes, a fine forehead; wears a dark goatee; has a pleasant countenance, is good natured, and his ready laugh is very infectious. He is on the committee of colleges, academies and common schools; also the committee on medical colleges and medical societies.

ALBERT CARPENTER

Was born in the city of New York—he is now forty-six years of age—follows farming, and is proud of the fact that he has six boys, old and smart and industrious enough to drive that number of plows. We are pleased to find a man once in a while who has the good sense to educate his sons in the science of farming, instead of forcing them into the overerowed professions. Mr. C. was formerly a Whig, but he is now an American: he is friendly to temperance, but opposed to the provisions of the Maine law. He attends the Methodist church. In person he is of ordinary stature; has brown hair, mild blue eyes, a round, florid face; is pleasant, sociable, free-hearted and energetic, and blessed with those social attributes which can not fail to win friends. Mr. C. is on the committee on state charitable institutions.

THOMAS CHARLOCK

Was born in the town of Fishkill, N. Y., in 1810; learned the trade of coppersmith and plumber in the city of New York, where he now resides and carries on the plumbing business. He is now, and always has been, a Democrat, opposed to prohibition. He attends the Baptist church; has been a widower for nearly twenty years; speaks in public very seldom; is now serving his second term, being first elected in 1848. He is about five feet nine inches in height, has dark hair and dark eyes, a Jewish nose, and wears a moustache, imperial and goatee. He is a sociable, pleasant fellow, and we judge he has a liberal heart and a whole soul.

Mr. Charlock represents the Eighth Assembly District, Tenth Ward. He is on the committee of trade and manufactures.

ELISHA CLAPP

Is a bachelor, about forty-six years of age; has a fresh, healthy face, hair prematurely gray, eyes blue; he is short, stout and vigorous. He was formerly a Whig, is now a Republican; has been sheriff of the county, and is very much esteemed by all who know him. He is a quiet, even-tempered man—not a speaker, but quite a thinker. He came within seventeen votes of being elected last year.

Mr. Clapp is a native of Massachusetts; is in "middling" circumstances; attends the Universalist church; is friendly to the temperance law. Mr. C. is a member of the committee on public printing. He is prompt as daylight, and true to his party as the dial to the sun.

LUCIAN CLARK

Was born in the town of Denmark, Lewis county. His father was a down-east yankee—and the subject of this brief sketch has the look and gait of a genuine down-easter. Mr. C. lived with his father until he was twenty-one years of age, working on the farm during the spring and summer seasons and attending school during the winter months. When he attained his majority he commenced teaching school, and continued to do so for ten successive winters. When thirty-one years of age he married and moved to the farm on which

he now resides. He was superintendent of schools, supervisor of the town, county clerk, &c.; was a Free Soil Whig until 1855, when he united with the Republicans.

Mr. C. is forty-nine years of age; tall, thin (but not a lean and hungry Cassius), and straight; has a spare face, expressive blue eyes, and brown hair. He is on the committee on public printing. He is a modest man, seldom rises to say a syllable in the House, but he votes understandingly and eloquently.

WILLIAM H. CROWE

Is not a Black Republican, notwithstanding the ominous color of his name—but a sterling Democrat of the old school. He was born in the town of Summit (an eagle could not have chosen a loftier name), in the county of Schoharie, in the year 1820. He was brought up on a farm, and is one of the thriftiest tillers of the soil in the country. He is an energetic business man—does not waste the time of the House in making *gaseous* speeches or *liquid* explanations and amendments, but in *solid* votes and strict attention to his duties as a legislator. He is on the committee of Indian affairs—indeed, he is tall and straight as an Indian—being nearly six feet high; has dark blue eyes, a thin, pleasant countenance, and dark whiskers; his face indicates rugged and rustic health. He is a married man, a justice of the peace, and well to do in the world.

GEORGE B. COX

Was a Henry Clay Whig up to the time of the inauguration of the Republican party, when he joined the B. R.'s for life, or during the war. Though a small man he is full of fight and does not hesitate to pitch into the giants that cross his path. He was born in the town of Wallkill (a warlike name) in the county of Orange, where he now resides and practices the profession of the law. He is a temperance man; attends the new-school Presbyterian church; is thirty-five years of age; of the nervous, bilious temperament; well built; of small stature; has dark hair; wears glasses; dresses in good taste; speaks frequently with considerable unction, sometimes with power and eloquence. Rumor says he is a plucky fellow, but we have not yet heard of his calling for pistols for two and toast, and tea for only one. He is a member of the judiciary committee.

GEORGE DE WITT CLINTON

Is from the county of Erie; is not a blood relative of the illustrious Clintons whose names are embroidered into the history of the nation; he is of Irish extraction. He was formerly a clerk, is now the proprietor of a mill, and manufactures large quantities of flour at Black Rock; has the reputation of being wealthy. He is about thirty-five years of age, of good form; has auburn hair and whiskers, mild eyes, a Roman nose, lips finely cut, an amiable expression of face, and a musical voice (which is heard frequently in the House). The ladies pronounce him handsome. His approbateness is so large he

is inclined to enter into explanations and apologies for his votes, at the cost of his reputation for decision of character. He has been in the Legislature before, is well posted on parliamentary usages, and looks keenly after the welfare of his constituents. He is an amiable, gentlemanly person, and, we would say in an under tone, unmarried. He is on the canal committee and the committee on engrossed bills.

RUFUS CROWLEY

Represents the Second Assembly District in Cattaraugus county. Was born in Rutland county, Vermont, in 1800, where he resided until 1841, having held the office in his native town of captain in the Vermont militia, constable and collector, selectman, overseer of the poor, and justice of the peace, for a number of years. In 1836 he was elected a member of the Vermont Legislature and re-elected in 1837. He was a member of the Legislature of this state, from Cattaraugus county, in 1847, the long session, being the first session after the adoption of the new Constitution. Has not been a candidate since, until the last election, at which he was opposed by the Democrats and Americans, but was triumphantly elected to the present House by over eleven hundred majority over both parties combined. In 1843 he was elected a justice of the peace in the county he now represents, which office he now holds. Mr. Crowley was formerly a Whig, but when the great Whig party split on the question of slavery, he was one of the first in his county who met in county convention to organize the Republican party, and was president of said convention.

Mr. Crowley has been in the mercantile business the most of his life; is now in easy circumstances. Lobby influence can not and dare not approach him. Mr. Crowley is five feet ten inches in height, has blue eyes and gray hair.

JAMES T. CAMERON

Is a full-blooded Scotchman. His parents came from the land of song and story nearly half a century ago, but the subject of this sketch was born in Steuben county, in the town of Hornellsville, in the year 1819, consequently he is 38 years of age; followed farming until he was twenty-one years of age. Then he was elected constable and chosen deputy sheriff two years; then he entered a law office and read law with J. K. Hale, now in the Senate and William Hawley an ex-Senator; after two years study he went to Alfred Academy, where he remained two years during which time he was admitted to the bar. Left his Alma Mater, went south with the intention of locating there, but changed his mind and pitched his tent in the city of New York, where he was engaged in the transportation business four years, at the close of which time, owing to illness, he moved to the town of Friendship, Alleghany county, where he now lives, and performs the duties of agent for the New York and Erie Railroad Company. In the year 1849 he performed the duties of sheriff in the county of Steuben, where he operated among the anti-renters. At one time a company of anti-renters threatened his life; he ventured

into the yard and forced his way through the crowd in the face of threats; is a democratic Republican; calls himself a Democrat. Is a married man. In person he is a hale, hearty, heavy, stout man, weighing nearly two hundred pounds, has a broad chest with a brave heart in it, a large head, broad high forehead, blue eyes, a full face, smoothly shaved. His grandfather was agent of the Pultney estate at Bath, a member of the Assembly about thirty years ago and died in Albany during the session of the Legislature.

JOHN P. DARLING

Is the *favorite* of the Republicans of the Thirty-second Senatorial District, was formerly the *darling* of the Whigs, and for a brief period the *pet* of the Americans; punning aside, Mr. D. is a very respectable gentleman, sustaining an honorable position in all the relations of life. He represents the counties of Cattaraugus and Chataugue in the Senate; is chairman of the committee on Indian affairs and a member of the committee on internal affairs of towns and counties. He is a tall, fine looking man, in the meridian of life, has dark hair and whiskers, a thin, sallow countenance, sharp black eyes, beaming with intelligence. He is a gentleman who commands the respect and esteem of all who know him.

WARREN DIMMICK

Is from Delaware county. He is a Democrat; follows farming and lumbering for a livelihood; is a man of fair abilities, a politician whose forte is shrewd management. He has held town offices and other places of trust, with honor to himself and credit to those who gave him their confidence. He is not friendly to all the provisions of the Maine Law; has the reputation of being "a good fellow," is sociable, pleasant and get-at-able; is a married man and well to-do in the world. In person he is large and solid, with a pleasant face, and hair somewhat gray. This is his first appearance as a legislator.

Mr. Dimmick is a practicing lawyer; for many years he has been a justice of the peace; has been supervisor of the town thrée terms, indeed he has held every office of any importance in the town in which he lives. Mr. D. is the son of Colonel Dimmick now living at Arkville, Delaware county. His grandfather, Shubel Dimmick, was a Revolutionary soldier. Mr. D. is on the agricultural committee.

FRANKLIN DUDLEY.

Represents the Second Assembly District of Dutchess county; is a native of the county of Berkshire, Massachusetts. Early in life, relying on his own resources, he left his parental home, and has, by a life of honorable industry and attention to business, secured a competency, and no man in the community in which he resides stands higher, and all with whom he has had business relations entertain for him the highest regard. Educated in the Jeffersonian Democracy, he has maintained it unflinchingly, and illustrated it in all his political and social action. Whenever the issue has been presented he has

always supported the cause of human freedom and the inalienable rights of man. He has held several posts of honor and public trust, one of which (post master for Pleasant Valley), he lost in consequence of refusing to obey the dictation of the slave power. With the same characteristic determination he has ever, when a candidate for office, refused to use rum and money to bribe the electors and to carry an election, preferring defeat to carrying an election by corrupt means. He knew nothing of his nomination until a few minutes before he was nominated; he has always shrunk from office.

In person Mr. Dudley presents a fine specimen of our species; in manners, dignified and agreeable; in temper, calm, firm and conciliating. He is a large man, with a full face, gray hair, blue eyes; he is the oldest man in the House. Mr. Dudley is now in the 67th year of age, but his friends regret that his health is such that he can not give that attention to the business of the House that his own sense of duty would dictate, but he is prompt and never afraid to perform his duty. He is on the committee of expenditures of the House and the committee of grievances. He has been engaged in mercantile pursuits, but now leads a retired life. He attends the Presbyterian church. This fine old American gentleman may be seen any day during the session of the Legislature with a white pocket-handkerchief on his head—a flag of truce he displays daily.

M. O. DAVIES

Has retired from business. He is sixty years of age, although he does not look to be more than fifty. He learned the shoemaker's trade in his youth, afterwards became a harness-maker, then a farmer, then a merchant, and now he lives upon his "income."

His residence is in Fonda, Montgomery county, and he represents the First District of that county. He is a temperance man. Is a member of the Methodist church. A Republican, formerly a Whig.

In person he is of ordinary height and size, has dark hair and eyes, a long, pale face, is quick and nervous, polite and pleasant, a man of fair abilities and good social qualities.

He is on the committee of state charitable institutions.

ARNELL F. DICKINSON

Is chairman of the committee on agriculture, and takes a deep interest in all matters relating to agriculture and education. He resides in the rural part of Westchester county, is a farmer and was born on the estate he now owns and occupies. He was a Whig, but is now a Republican.

He is not a member nor steady attendant of any particular church. Residing in a rural community in which all denominations are about equally represented, his inclinations lean strongly to charitableness of opinion, while he deprecates most sincerely that disposition to jealousy, intolerance and unfriendliness too prevalent among religious denominations. He has filled various stations of public trust in his native town

and county, and now for the first time makes his appearance in the Legislature.

He is thirty-eight years of age, but looks much older, because he is prematurely gray; has a full, ruddy face, and seems to enjoy robust and vigorous health. He is a stout man of full habit. It is a feather in his cap that he never drank a glass of intoxicating liquor in his life, nor used tobacco in any form. He seems to be a man of considerable energy, and has a good mind which has been improved by general reading.

JOHN D. DIXON

Is a name well known on our legislative records, he having been in the Assembly three years in succession representing the Fourth District (fifth ward) of the city of New York. Mr. Dixon has not only represented the same district each time, but the same democratic principles also. He is a master mechanic (a sash-maker) and a thorough business man. He was born in the ward he represents; thus contradicting the sentiment that a man has no honor in his own country among his own kindred; attends the Methodist church; is a married man, has been connected with the fire department. Mr. Dixon is a tall, finely formed man, with dark hair, somewhat bald, has large magnetic eyes, a full, fresh, jovial face, the index to a generous nature which is one of his striking characteristics. He is on the committee of banks, internal affairs of towns and counties, and the sub-committee of sixteen. Mr. Dixon seldom speaks, but votes always—according to the instructions he received from his constituents.

JAMES R. DICKSON.

The ancient Saxons were in the habit of giving but one name to their children, hence when Robert, or Richard, or William, or Jack, or Dick had a son, he would be distinguished by the cognomen of Richardson, the son of Richard; Williamson, the son of William; Jackson, the son of Jack; Dickson, the son of Dick; in this way we see in one direction the origin of Saxon names. Mr. Dickson is a native of Utica, Oneida county, is fifty-one years of age, of common size and stature, has gray hair, blue eyes, an earnest face, a sound head and a kind heart; is a miller by occupation, attends the Associate Reform church; is a member of the committee on grievances, and represents the First District in Orange county. His parents belong to Orange county, and he, after an absence of seventeen years in South Carolina, married an Orange county lady and located in the District he now represents. His father came from Ireland in 1798.

JOHN EVERS

Represents the Third or City District of Albany; is an Irishman, and owes his election to his popularity among his countrymen. He is an officer in the Emmet Guards; is engaged in the liquor trade; a Catholic in religion; a fine looking man, about forty years of age. Soon after his election he met with an accident which resulted in a broken leg, and rendered it difficult for him to attend to his legislative duties. He is seldom seen in the House. He is on the committee of elections and privileges.

JOHN W. FERDON.

Senator Ferdon is probably the youngest member of the Senate, but being prematurely bald, he appears older than he really is. He is of the nervous temperament; has pale features; a high forehead, which shines as though fresh from some classic varnish; a nose that would have tempted Napoleon the great, to make a marshall of him. He has blue eyes, nicely penciled eye brows, and a face indicative of a clear conscience, and a good digestive apparatus. He is on the committee on agriculture, on the select committee, on the rules of the house, on state prisons, and on medical societies.

SAMUEL ALFRED FOOT.

Judge Foot is one of the oldest and ablest members of the Legislature. He is a native of Watertown, Connecticut, and is the son of a farmer. The farm on which he was born has been in the family five generations, and is now the property of a blood relative. He acquired his elementary education in the old, red school-house which formerly stood on the village green. When in his teens he left home to live with his brother, Ebenezer Foot, a member of the bar in the city of Troy. After spending one year in his brother's office he went to Union college, where he remained four years; not having the means to complete his studies, he repaired to the office of Judge Thompson of Saratoga county; remained nine months there, and then completed his studies with his brother and S. North, Esq., who had opened an office in Albany. When Mr. North died, the subject of this sketch went into full partnership with his brother, who was twenty years his senior. After being in partnership with him eighteen months his brother died, and the Supreme Court admitted him as a counsellor, and Chancellor Kent, as a solicitor on *ex gracia*. He at once commenced to argue cases in the Supreme Court. The first case he argued in the Court for the Correction of Errors, was Jackson *ex dem*, Houseman *ex dem* versus Sebrig and Carpenter, against Emmet and Wells, in which he gained for his clients seventy thousand dollars, and received a fee of ten thousand dollars for his services, which, with the exception of one thousand dollars retained by himself, he applied to the payment of his deceased brother's debts, and to a provision for his widow and daughter.

Judge Foot has been engaged in many interesting and important cases. He is one of the first commercial lawyers in the state. After leaving Albany he practiced his profession in the city of New York, where he acquired an independent fortune. He has now retired to a beautiful residence in Geneva, which district he represents for the second term in the Legislature. He speaks frequently and fluently on all topics brought before the House, and reads carefully every bill presented to the Legislature. He is one of the most industrious men in the House, working early and late, and watching the treasury with a vigilance that would do credit to Joseph Hume, the great economist of England. He scarcely gives himself time to eat or sleep, being on committees which demand almost all the time of recess; and John Quincy Adams was not more punctual to his desk than Judge Foot is to his seat. He

is chairman of the judiciary committee; on the committee of excise, and the criminal code committee.

In person he is rather below medium stature; has a little stoop of the shoulders; gray hair, originally dark; sharp brown eyes, a hooked or eagle nose, a broad, high, shining forehead; has a habit of swaying his head from side to side when he speaks. His voice is fine, but he pitches it at a high key, and gesticulates with so much earnestness as to attract the attention of the House. He is about sixty years of age; is a member of the Presbyterian church; a man of high social standing. Under Gov. Clinton he held the office of district attorney, and was removed to make room for B. F. Butler. Since he has been in Geneva, he was appointed by Gov. Hunt, presiding Judge of the Court of Appeals.

JOHN H. FUNK,

Member from Kings county, is forty years of age. He was born in Cherry Valley, Otsego county, Feb'y 8, 1817, where he resided till nineteen years of age, learning the trade of house carpenter. In the year 1836 he left the home of his childhood to seek his fortune in the great city of New York, where he resided till about the year 1846; he then removed to Brooklyn, and went into business as a builder, on his own account, which he has pursued with great energy and success, having been rewarded with an ample fortune for his industry and integrity. Last fall, being about to retire from the active scenes of his profession, the Democratic party of his district, of which Mr. Funk has from his earliest days been a faithful member, unanimously nominated and elected him, by a large majority, to represent them in the Legislature. As a legislator Mr. Funk exhibits the same untiring industry in protecting the interests of his constituents, as he always did in his own private business.

Mr. F. is about five feet nine inches tall; of the nervous, sanguine temperament; has blue eyes, pale complexion, and brown hair; a well developed forehead. He is president of the Lafayette Insurance Company of the city of Brooklyn.

ERASTUS W. GLOVER

Has made politics the study of his life. He seems to have been born a politician, and is familiar with all the crooks and convolutions of all the political organizations of the day. He is a native of the city of New York, and represents the Ninth Assembly District, which embraces the eleventh ward of the city of New York. He has been in the House twice before (in 1853 and in 1856), and of course has had considerable experience as a legislator. He is on the committee of sixteen, the excise committee, and the committee to equalize taxation.

Mr. G. is a good parliamentarian, speaks sensibly and forcibly, and commands the ear of the House—because he is not a bore, and has the good sense and good taste to “stop speaking when he has done.” He is a Democrat of the old school; has been superintendent of streets, &c. in New York; is a master mechanic (a painter); attends the Universalist church; was chairman of the excise commit-

tee at the last session of the House, and gave a report adverse to prohibition.

During the Dorr excitement he went with Mike Walsh and other volunteers to fight for the Oliver Cromwell of Rhode Island. Mr. G. is thirty-five years of age, of medium stature, pale complexion, blue eyes and brown hair; is of the sensitive temperament; has a good share of courage, is courteous and obliging, and true to his constituents.

SAMUEL H. GRANT

Is from Worcester, Otsego county, and represents the First District of that county. He was a Democrat, born in the blood, and sticks to his Democracy in its hour of adversity as well as in the palmy days of its prosperity; is a lawyer; has been county superintendent of schools. He attends the Methodist church; is opposed to prohibition. He was born in Chenango county; studied law with Elijah Brown, Esq., and commenced the practice of law in the town where he now resides. He is on the committee of two-thirds and three-fifths bills, the committee of privileges and elections, on the special committee to revise the criminal code, and on the special committee on capital punishment.

Mr. Grant is forty years of age, short and stout built, has a robust form and rosy face, blue eyes and dark hair. He is a faithful, earnest, hard-working and very useful man. May his district always GRANT so good a representative.

ISAAC GEORGE

Is a member of the Assembly, representing the Second District of Chautauque county, and resides in the village of Fredonia. He was born in the town of Gainseville, Wyoming (late Genesee) county, on the first day of May, 1818.

In early life the desolating scourge of intemperance sundered for him the paradise of a parental home, and left him from the age of six years with little protection or aid, except the charities of the world, to enable him to meet and overcome its multiplied temptations and trials.

The acknowledgment of an honored mother's many and tearful sacrifices in his behalf, and also his present regards for a reformed and venerable father, he would deem it a breach of gratitude and filial duty to withhold.

He was reared principally in the vicinity of Springville, Erie county, residing, portions of the time, with different families in that section, until the age of twenty, during which period he succeeded in obtaining an education which has enabled him thus far to fill, with fair literary credit, the various positions which he has since been called upon to occupy in life. Springville Academy was his *Alma Mater*. During this period he was accustomed to employ himself a portion of each successive year in teaching common school.

Possessed of strong religious sympathies, he embraced, at the age of eighteen, the peculiar doctrines of the Universalist denomination, and received its fellowship as a clergyman in 1840.

In 1841 he married Miss Mary Brewer, of Cuba, Alleghany county, with whom, and three lovely daughters, his home is now blest with life's best attractions. The following year he located in Independence, in the last named county, as pastor of a society of his faith.

In 1844, he took the pastoral charge of a society at Perrysburg, Ohio, where he remained two years. He then (in 1846) returned to Springville, the home of his boyhood days, in which place he succeeded in organizing a Universalist society and building a church.

After remaining here about five years he removed (in 1851) to Chautauque county, where he has since resided, with the exception of two years ('54 and '55) spent in Middleport, Niagara county, as pastor of a society in that village.

Failing health and a disgust for the apparent necessity of ministerial changes, which have become so common of late, together with a desire to relieve himself of that dependence, which subjects the freedom of the pulpit to the caprice of a captious and intolerant minority in too many religious societies, induced him, not long since, to turn his attention to the study and practice of law.

He has, within the past year, been admitted as an attorney, which position will not, in his opinion, necessarily preclude him from the privilege of speaking in behalf of Christ and religion, should occasion require.

He has always been a working friend of temperance and favors prohibition.

Formerly a Whig, he united with the Republican party at its inauguration, and, during the late campaign, was among the leading speakers of his section of the state.

His nomination for his present position was endorsed on the 4th of November last by about two thousand plurality.

Mr. George is a tall, well-formed man, with brown hair, blue eyes and an earnest face. He speaks distinctly and deliberately and is a man of considerable power; he commands the respect of the house.

It is our opinion there is a bright future before this gentleman, for he is an untiring student, a close thinker, a man of unexceptionable habits, and has the peculiar tact to win golden opinions from his associates.

Mr. G. is on the committee of colleges, academies and common schools, and on the committee of excise, and chairman of committee on capital punishment.

C. P. GRANGER

Represents the Second District in Jefferson county—a district “worthy of mention” for its mineral productions, its lumber, its agricultural advantages and its water-power. It is the terminus of the Black River Canal, and in the immediate vicinity of the “Thousand Islands” that gem the bosom of the beautiful St. Lawrence. In Mr. Granger's district are the famous Sterlingville Iron Works, where pig and refined iron of a superior quality are manufactured. He resides in the town of Le Ray, which was the residence of the famous James Le Ray, who founded the first agricultural society in this state—a

society which has at the present writing no equal in the commonwealth.

Mr. G. has formerly been a teacher; he is now an engineer by profession. He was several years superintendent of education in his own town, being chosen while his party was in the minority. He is forty-three years of age, a widower, and has a good estate. He was formerly a Whig; is now a Republican; is friendly to prohibition; a strong, popular man, who will watch with vigilance the welfare of his constituents. He is a nephew of Gen. Amos P. Granger, of Syracuse, one of the true men in Congress who has had the courage and talent to make his mark on the side of liberty and humanity.

C. P. Granger is a large, stout man, with a high, broad forehead, brown hair, blue eyes, and a full face indicating firmness and honesty of purpose.

He has just been elected a justice of the peace in the town where he resides, thus evincing the satisfaction of his immediate constituents, and the appreciation by his neighbors and townsmen of his ability and integrity in the discharge of official duties. He belongs to the committee on public lands.

JOHN GOULD

Represents the Second District of Niagara. He occupied the same position last year. He is a plain farmer, blessed with a large share of good common sense, and that firmness of character which insures the respect of a large circle of political friends. He has held town and county offices for many years—has been supervisor, loan commissioner, &c., &c. He was, until recently, a Cass Democrat, but when that party steeped itself in alcohol and gave up to slavery in order to preserve its existence, he left it in disgust and united with the Republicans. He is an outspoken temperance man; a member of the Congregational church; a man of family—seven sons and two daughters—and a man of fortune.

Although his parents were United States citizens, he was born in Canada in 1797; came to the district he now represents when a child, and has lived there for more than half a century. He is a stout built man, rather below the common stature; has brown hair touched with silver; a full, fat round face; is a pleasant and agreeable man. Long may he wave, and may his shadow never be less. He is on the committee of Indian affairs. We consider him worth his weight in *gould*.

JOHN T. HOGEBOOM.

The name of the subject of this sketch clearly enough indicates its Holland extraction; yet while the paternal fountain has carried along with its flow the title of its origin, it has, like the natural stream in its descent, received into itself the flood of many branches. This continent presents in this respect the opposite of the old. There, the streams of human lineage have run *divergent*, giving rise to the distinct families of the new. Here, they are receiving their *convergent* flow, assimilating the races of men into a harmonious whole; and following, as it would seem, like the circulation of blood in the indi-

vidual, some great law of humanity. We make these philosophical abstractions parenthetically, because they are suggested by the family name, though they would more properly belong to a treatise on nomenclature than to these "hurrygraphs."

From his father, Judge Hogeboom derives not only Dutch, but the blood of the Huguenots; from his mother, English and Irish—we may add, too, in passing, in all something of a "rebel" character. That of the Huguenots is well known; some of his ancestors were among the Rhode Island Baptists, the first *free* offshoot of New England Puritanism. The celebrated Quakeress, Sarah Smith, who was tied to a cart and whipped through the streets of Salem, for "religion's sake," was a direct lineal ancestor.

In all the contests upon this continent, for religious and political freedom, bloody or bloodless, the different branches of this family have borne a conspicuous part upon the "rebel" side. Reverence for the *frost* of hoary age seems to have constituted but a very small part of the family character, and this is indubitably inherited by the person we are now endeavoring to present to our readers. We can scarcely more than refer to a very few of the features of a history which has been a very eventful one, and of more than common incident.

Judge Hogeboom was born in 1816, on the spot where he now resides, and where have dwelt his direct ancestors since the vacating of possession by the Aborigines. It is a beautiful and quiet valley, in the heart of "old Columbia," and, like most of the original Dutch settlements in this country, remarkable alike for the salubrity of its climate and the fertility of its soil. His early education, until the age of fourteen, was from the common school of the town. These schools while wanting many of the advantages of a more advanced education, nevertheless certainly furnish a kind of mental aliment in a higher degree than any other educational institutions. Here, meet the sons and daughters of the whole community, in whose childlike simplicity and truthfulness, the artificial distinctions of society find but little favor. Character stands upon its natural bases, and presents views of human nature which no other condition so well affords. Here, are revealed the secret springs of human action, open to clear inspection, which more or less become concealed in the covered ways of after life. The judge's powers of observation were always acute, and much of his facility and unerring accuracy in judging the motives of men, may be due to this early training in the common schools—those Nation's nurseries of freemen.

At the age of 14 he was sent to a neighboring academy, where, dividing his time between study and hunting and fishing, he matured all he ever received of a classical education. It must not be inferred from this allusion to out-door sports, that he was inattentive to his studies; on the contrary, no pupil made greater proficiency. The privilege of following the bent of his own inclination for half the time, was secured to him by his father, as a condition of his entering the institution, and one which the subject of it was not very likely to surrender. Against the urgent solicitation of his friends he abandoned the design of a "college course," and became a pupil of the

famous Amos Eaton in a quiet school on the banks of the Hudson. He remained here about three years, busying himself in hammering rocks, picking to pieces flowers, stuffing birds, pinning butterflies, dissecting frogs and lizards, etc., etc., thus practically illustrating his text-books on geology, botany and natural history as a diversion, while pursuing his studies in natural philosophy, mechanics and mathematics. In this last branch he has few superiors. He mastered conic sections, fluxions, the differential and integral calculus, and in fact the whole of the science of pure mathematics at a very early age, and without the aid of a teacher. To this severe training and thorough discipline may be ascribed his remarkable powers of analysis and induction, his close reasoning and logical force.

In 1833 he went to Kinderhook and commenced the study of the law. In 1835, he migrated "to the West," (Buffalo was then regarded as "out west") finished his studies, and commenced the practice of his profession, at the "queen city of the lakes." While there he planned an expedition across the Rocky Mountains and formed a company for its execution, which failed in its undertaking, only from the strong and affectionate interference of his parents, who had become apprised of it before it was too late. The incident is worthy of record, perhaps, as covering in design a project since so gloriously executed by a young adventurer, "the Pathfinder of Empire," whose deeds have passed into history and developed to the world a character destined to become immortal.

In 1842 he was married to Miss Sarah McClellan, a daughter of Dr. Samuel McClellan, of Nassau, a woman of rare accomplishments and great personal beauty. We have not space to devote to the history of his elevation to the bench, his election to various posts of honor, his eloquent speeches before agricultural and literary societies, his political labors in '48; these facts will appear in a larger volume nearly ready for the press. Judge H. is a clear thinker, a close reasoner, and an able and eloquent debater, and is one of the first men in the Legislature. In person he is of common stature, of the nervous sanguine temperament, has dark hair, brown eyes, wears a long auburn beard, which becomes him admirably. Our sketch of Judge H., which we had prepared, is too long for the general scope and design of this work. It will appear in a volume entitled the "Empire man of the Empire State."

LYMAN HAWES

Is the heaviest man in the House and has chosen his seat in sleepy hollow, but the reader must not suppose on that account that he is a phlegmatic man, for he is an active and useful man; indeed the members in that soporific region are always wide awake during the sessions of the House. Mr. H. is a farmer; has a full, fresh face, blue eyes, and his once fair hair is now beginning to be bleached by years. He is a solid man physically and a sound man mentally. He represents one of the districts in Livingston county. He is on the committee of towns and counties.

WILLIAM HOTCHKISS.

Senator Hotchkiss is an amiable gentleman with a clear head and a generous heart, was originally a mechanic. He has devoted his leisure moments to the study of politics, and is really one of the ablest men in the Senate, having a sound mind and discriminating taste. He was with Michael Hoffman and other distinguished men in the constitutional convention in 1846; has held various town and county offices, and was never defeated when a candidate for office: was elected by the Americans and represents the Fourteenth District. He is fifty years of age; has round blue eyes, gray hair and a full, calm face; he wears spectacles, pays strict attention to business, and deserves the reputation he has won for unswerving veracity. He is a native of Albany; attends the Presbyterian church.

JOHN K. HALE.

Senator Hale is a hale and hearty looking man, with a round, full, fat, pleasant face, closely shaved, small blue eyes, which are nearly closed when he speaks, and that can not be owing to a lack of language, for he is one of the readiest and most eloquent debaters in the Senate Chamber, being full of that human lightning which wings a man's words with fire and comes home to the heart with electric energy. His looks indicate indomitable force of character, and his mouth does not seem to be formed to say "I cant." He must be about forty-five years of age; is a lawyer, having a large practice in Hornellsville, Steuben county. He was in the Assembly in '49. He is on the committee on grievances and on privileges and elections.

JOHN B. HALSTEAD

Owing to a misfortune which resulted in a broken limb, and at one time threatened his life, Senator Halstead has been detained at home during a greater portion of the session of the Senate. We saw him the other day leaning upon the arm of a friend and using crutches making his way slowly to his seat. He is a tall, pale, nervous, sickly looking man; a merchant, and when able to attend to his business is very active, and is noted for the soundness of his judgment and the integrity of his purposes. He is apparently forty-five years of age, and we hope he will be able to throw away his crutches in time to run again for office, for he deserves the confidence and support of his district. He is on the committee on manufactures and the committee of privileges and elections.

JOHN HANFORD

Is a tall, good looking man with dark eyes and dark hair and a rosy face, terminating in a moustache. He is from Brooklyn, Kings county; is a Democrat, dyed in the wool, and his earnest face shows that he is a warm friend and not a vicious enemy. He watches the weal of his district with unsleeping vigilance. He is on the committee on claims, and the committee of commerce and navigation. He is a native of Norwalk, Ct., 39 years of age; has been a resident of that part of Brooklyn formerly known as Williamsburgh for 20 years. This is his second term in Assembly; he represents a district which, under the new apportionment will be entitled to two members.

WILLIAM H. HYDE

Was born in the town of Oxford, N. Y., in the year 1826. He attended school in that town at the academy, afterwards became an assistant teacher in that celebrated institution of learning. He graduated at Geneva (now Hobart Free College) in 1848, and immediately assumed the province of teacher in the town of Delhi, N. Y., where he remained a short time and then returned to Oxford and read law in the office of Mr. Henry R. Mygatt, Esq. He represents the Second Assembly District of Chenango. His father, now dead, was a representative from the same county in 1822 and in 1832. Mr. Hyde is a very efficient man, whose nice taste and literary attainments eminently fit him to perform the functions of a Legislator. He is on the joint library committee, the committee on internal affairs of towns and counties, and the committee to revise the criminal code. Mr. H. is a retiring, modest man, speaks to the point, and his wit is as keen as a Damascus blade. His address before the Oxford Literary Society is a masterpiece of elegant composition. In person he is slender, with a thin face, dark hair and whiskers. He is a bachelor.

JOHN HOLSTEAD

Represents the Third Assembly District in Oneida county; is a Republican, was formerly a Whig; is on the committee of internal affairs of towns and counties; is a married man; not a member of any church, but usually attends; is thirty-three years of age; has reddish brown hair, a smoothly shaved, round, florid face, large blue eyes; is impulsive, energetic, cordial and free-hearted. He is engaged in manufacturing and dealing in lumber; is in comfortable circumstances, indeed, independent. His honest face would frighten any lobby man who would dare attempt to approach him with a bribe.

JOHN W. HARCOURT

Belongs to the Albany District. Was for many years agent for the People's line of steamboats; is a whole-souled fellow, sociable and generous; was originally a Soft Democrat, but united with the K. N.s at the outset of their organization; was their candidate for Congress in '54, but was defeated by Dr. Dickson, then a good Whig, now a true blue Republican. Mr. H. is about forty-seven years of age, a good looking man. He is a member of the committee on public buildings, also of the militia committee. He is a popular favorite, and blessed with many generous traits of character.

JAMES HUNTINGTON

Represents the Twenty-fifth Senatorial District. He is a farmer, a man of substance, a Republican; attends the Presbyterian church; is a native of New London, Connecticut; has dark hair and whiskers, snowed over with the storms of fifty-nine winters; he has thin lips and blue eyes and an honest face. He is on the banking committee, and the committee on expiring laws.

A. HUTCHINSON

Is a tall man, well proportioned, has blue eyes, brown hair, a rim of whiskers which become his strongly-marked face as feathers do an eagle. He is forty-six years of age, follows the plow, has taught school, has been accustomed to public speaking, having lectured frequently on temperance and freedom; he took the stump for the Republican cause and candidates last fall, and rendered efficient service during the campaign. Mr. H. was formerly a Whig, afterwards a Liberty Party man, is now a Republican. He attends the Congregational church; is regarded as an ultra temperance man. We judge him to be a man of great firmness and decision of character, earnest and zealous in the cause of freedom, bold and fearless in the avowal of his opinions. He is a man of sterling honesty, and will labor assiduously for the welfare of his constituents.

Born in Remsen, Oneida county. His father emigrated to Orleans county in 1816, to the same lot on which the subject of this sketch was born. He is on the committee on public lands.

W. T. HASTINGS

Was born in Chemung county, in the town in which he now resides—proving the fact that there are exceptions to the rule, that prophets have no honor in their own country among their own kindred. Mr. Hastings is forty-six years of age, nearly six feet high and of fair proportions; he has brown hair of a reddish cast, and sandy whiskers; he wears spectacles, his eyes having been injured by the explosion of a potash kettle. He is a thorough-going temperance man, a member of the Methodist church, and a true friend to every Christian and charitable institution.

He was for many years a regular Democrat; was postmaster in the town in which he lives, at the time there was such a stampede toward the Buffalo Platform, and he was removed in consequence of his barn-burning proclivities. He was a delegate from his county in state convention, when the Republicans and Whigs united and formed the Republican party. Gov. King presided at said convention. He attended the Philadelphia convention that nominated Col. Fremont for President; came home and found that his village paper had been bought over by the Democrats to the support of Buchanan, and he immediately went to New York and bought a press, hired an editor and hands, and raised the flag of freedom in his village, and paid the expense of running the press until he left to serve his constituents at Albany.

He was a poor boy; worked at farming until he was twenty-four years of age, then operated as a merchant for twelve years, then went into the milling business. He now owns the Chemung County Bank.

He is a man of tireless energy of character, frank and friendly, of correct business habits and uncommon executive ability. He was elected on the Republican ticket. Some of his political opponents voted for him, knowing that he would spare no labor to promote the general good of his constituents. Mr. H. is on the canal committee, on the committee on census, and the committee for equalizing the state tax.

A. V. HARPENDING

Represents Yates county, and is now serving his first term as a Legislator. He is a lawyer in good standing, and has been district attorney in the county which he represents. Was a Wooley Whig, but is now a Black Republican. He attends the Presbyterian church. Is a bachelor, thirty-seven years of age, of small stature; has black hair and dark eyes, a high promontory-like forehead. He rather distinguished himself in a speech made in defence of the public buildings at Havana. He made an able and argumentative reply to Mr. Van Valkenburgh, who was eloquent in behalf of Watkins. Mr. H. is chairman of the committee on the internal affairs of towns and counties and a member of the Kansas committee.

GEORGE M. HOLLIS.

Mr. Hollis is a resident of the town of Butternuts, Otsego county, a gentleman of pleasing exterior, and in easy circumstances. He is about thirty-three years of age, and has been engaged in the mercantile business until recently, when he purchased a fertile and valuable farm in the above town, where he now resides, at peace with all the world, not even excluding "the rest of mankind." Popular at home, the vote he received from the people of his district is one of the best testimonials a man can hope for. He has good judgment, sound sense, and will legislate for the good of the whole People.—*N. Y. Sun.*

ANSON INGRAHAM

Is from the First District in Washington county; was formerly a Whig, is now an ardent Republican; attends the Presbyterian church; has been a merchant, is now engaged in manufacturing stoves in the city of Troy, thus immortalizing his name in iron. He has a noble countenance, dark, expressive eyes, dark hair slightly curled. In his county he has held various offices of trust, and supervisor for many years. He is on the sub-committee of the whole, and a very useful and intelligent member. He commands the respect of all, by his urbanity and undeviating courtesy.

HENRY J. IRVING

Is a native of New York, a lawyer by profession, an American in politics. He read law at Ballston, was admitted to practice by the Supreme Court, at the Capitol, and now deals in Littleton, and Cook, and Blackstone in the empire city. He is about thirty years of age, of Scotch descent (his parents were not K. N.'s); attends the Dutch Reformed church (even that has a foreign name); is a bachelor (no specimen of young America in his family yet); has light brown hair; blue eyes; speaks frequently and with considerable ability; is on the committee of three-fifth bills, and the expenses of the House.

Mr. I. stands well at the bar, and is considered a good fellow in social life. May he earn a name as lasting as that worn by his distinguished namesake, the Goldsmith of America.

DAVID R. FLOYD JONES.

It is generally conceded that Mr. Jones is one of the ablest Democrats in the House, and if that party has a leader there, he is the most prominent man, and wears the belt at every boxing match. He was their candidate for Speaker, and we doubt if the Democratic party has a more competent man in the state, to discharge the responsible and delicate functions of that difficult post. Mr. Jones has a good voice, speaks deliberately, distinctly and accurately, and never fails to get the *eye* and the *ear*, though not always the *heart* of the House. He is a man of noble presence, tall, straight, erect and dignified, with dark hair and piercing, dark eyes, a thoughtful face fringed with whiskers. He is one of the hardest of the Hards, opposed to prohibition, and inimical to agitation on the subject of slavery.

David R. Floyd Jones was born at South Oyster Bay, Queens county, Long Island, on the 6th of April, 1813. Entered the sophomore class of Union College, Schenectady, in July, 1829, and graduated in 1832. Studied law with Judge Samuel W. Jones of Schenectady, and was admitted to the bar in 1836, and practiced law in the city of New York. Was elected a member of the Assembly of this state, from the city of New York in the fall of 1840, re-elected in 1841, and again elected in 1842. Was elected in 1843, a Senator, to represent the First Senatorial District, then composed of the city and county of New York, the county of Kings and the county of Richmond. In 1846 was elected a delegate to the convention which framed our present state constitution. In 1848 was chosen clerk of the Superior Court of the city of New York, which office he held until 1852, when he resigned. He then left the city of New York and took up his residence at South Oyster Bay, L. I., on the estate which had been owned and occupied by his family for more than a century and a half. He is now the representative in the Assembly of his native county of Queens.

THOMAS JOHNSON

Was formerly a Democrat, and cast his first ballot for Martin Van Buren. In 1840 he united with the Whig party, and remained with that party until the inauguration of Republicanism. He is now and probably will be during his lifetime a "protective tariff" man from principle, and obtained the votes of temperance men at the late election. He was born in Saratoga county, is forty-two years of age, six feet tall, has brown hair, and blue eyes; is a farmer; belongs to the Reform Baptist church; a man of family. He is an honest, industrious and intelligent man.

BARNA R. JOHNSON.

A more respectable Parliament of men than the present Legislature of this state has seldom convened at the capitol of our commonwealth.

We have in that body of Legislators men of talent and metal, who will not suffer in comparison with some of the members of Congress

who make great pretensions. Littlejohn, Baker, Scott, Van Valkenburgh, Pendergast, Foote, and many other celebrities have seats in the house; but we now invite the attention of our readers to a sketch of a young lawyer (Barna R. Johnson) from Delaware county. This quiet, modest young man belongs to the class of self-made men, self-taught, self-reliant, he usually accomplishes whatever he undertakes.

As a lawyer he has been eminently successful in several important suits, and has won green laurels and golden honors in the face of adverse circumstances. His competitor for the seat he occupies was Barna Radeker, a man of fortune and influence, for whom the subject of this sketch was named—a singular coincidence, not foreseen when the child was christened. Mr. Johnson excels as an advocate, having a good voice and a great command of language. Has taken part in the debate of most of the important questions in the house; makes his best efforts when he has strong opposition. He is on the judiciary, two-thirds and three-fifths committees. He has been frequently honored by his constituents, who have given him posts of honor and trust in the town and county.

He was formerly a Seward Whig, but early identified himself with the Republican party. Believes in the inalienable *rights* of man and holds that governments are bound to secure those *rights*. He attends the Presbyterian church, though not a communicant. Is friendly to the temperance enterprise, but will not over-legislate on the question for the gratification of our political enemies.

He is about thirty years of age; has a bold, high forehead, bright blue eyes, dark hair, inclined to curl, wears a moustache, is rather below the medium stature.

He dresses with care and neatness, and makes a good appearance. We predict a bright future for him, and wish him success, for he has a great heart.

JOHN H. KETCHAM.

The subject of this sketch is a young man—perhaps the youngest man in the House, being but twenty-four years of age—but he wears an old head, and takes to business and politics as if created for no other purpose. In his school-boy time he was an active, shrewd political manager, and was put forward for the suffrage of his party even before he had attained his majority. This is his second term in the Legislature; and he has served two years in the board of supervisors of Dutchess county. He is a consistent member of the Republican party, and is as constant as the pole-star to its principles. About the time he became of an age to legalize business transactions, he lost his father, who was one of the most energetic business men of Dutchess county. Thus he was thrust forward as the head and front of a large and arduous business. In all the positions in which he has been placed, he has acted well his part, and maintained an unsullied reputation. Do you ask for active enterprise, benevolence, or “sweet-toned companionship?” In him they all unite.

He takes an active part in the proceedings of the house, and is one of its most useful, able and influential members; is chairman of the

committee on roads and bridges, also is a member of the sub-committee of the whole, two of the most important committees in the House. The reader may rest assured that he has but little leisure at his disposal, and it would be difficult to find one more faithful, efficient and impartial in the discharge of his official labors. He possesses the unabated confidence of his constituents, is constantly at his post, and is as true to their interests as the steel to the star; he has the combination of the *forteri in re* with the *suavior in modo* which makes him much respected while he is a general favorite.

He is five feet ten inches in height, good built, has brown hair, gray blue eyes, a healthy face, pleasant expression and is a young man of good principles, pleasing address, and unexceptionable habits.

ALANSON KING

Was born in Collins, Erie county, N. Y., on the 20th March, 1816. He was bred a farmer, and has followed agricultural pursuits most of his life. He was a Whig (from his boyhood) until the formation of the Republican party, when he exerted the utmost of his endeavors to secure the triumph of freedom. He is a man highly esteemed in all the relations of life.

Mr. K. has been supervisor of the town in which he lives. Has taught school off and on for 12 years, and has had some experience in mercantile pursuits, but is now a farmer. In person he is of ordinary stature, has dark hair, blue eyes, a red, healthy face; he is an affable, sociable and pleasant man, and has a host of friends in the House.

RICHARD KIMMEY

Was born in Bethlehem, in Albany county; is a forwarder; a member of the Dutch Reformed church; is fifty-five years of age; of common stature; has brown hair, blue eyes and the sun-tan on his cheeks. He is now serving his second term in the House; is on the agricultural committee and the committee on charitable and religious institutions. He is an industrious, faithful man, working earnestly and honestly for the welfare of his friends; he is a Democrat.

THOMAS KIVLEN

Was born in Ireland, but came to this country in his childhood. When sixteen years of age he commenced clerking in a grocery store in the city of New York, afterwards kept a grocery and liquor store on his own account; has been a Democrat from his boyhood; served as a police officer in the city of New York for six years, resigned in 1854, and was appointed to an office in the Marine Court, which office he held three years. He now represents the Second District of New York, which embraces the Third and Sixth Wards. Mr. K. is a Catholic, twenty-eight years of age, five feet seven inches in height, weighs 160 pounds; has blue eyes and brown hair, a large, pale face, with high cheek bones. He has the gift of tongues and speaks spontaneously. He is on the committee on Indian affairs. He stood up manfully in the House in defense of servant girls who have no redress in some families when they sue for wages, and has made several impromptu speeches, which were devoid of polish but full of vigor.

WILLIAM KELLY

Is one of the most influential Democrats in the state, indeed he has a national reputation. He was formerly a first class importing merchant in the city of New York in partnership with his brother Robert, now deceased. He now lives on his beautiful estate at Rhinebeck, where his handsome residence is the admiration of all beholders, and his hospitality the praise of every guest. In the Senate he takes considerable interest in matters pertaining to corporations and banking institutions, being eminently practical and a first-rate financier. He is chairman of the bank committee, and a member of the committee on roads and bridges, and performs his duties with great efficiency. He is a very prudent, watchful legislator, prompt and dignified, and faithful at his post. He is about fifty years of age; a lordly looking man, with flaxen hair, blue eyes, pale complexion. He is stout-built, erect in form, and elastic in step. He has a princely fortune. He represents the Eighth Senatorial District.

JOHN T. LACEY,

Representing the Second District of Monroe county, is a son of the late Hon. Isaac Lacey, who was twice a Representative, and a State Senator two terms. He was a large farmer in the town of Chili, and, with his noble companion, reared a family of five sons and seven daughters; and in the minds of all were deeply implanted the highest sense of honor and a sincere regard for private and public virtue, from which none have ever swerved.

The subject of this notice was born at White Creek, Washington county, in 1808. He came with his father, in 1816, to his western New York home, at or near which he has resided until seven years ago, when he removed to Rochester. He has been town clerk two years, supervisor three years, justice of the peace in the town of Chili ten years, county clerk three years, is now an alderman of the fourth ward in Rochester, and the choice of the people of that good city for its representative in the Legislature.

He has twice been on the lower side of the wheel of fortune, but is now honestly possessed of a small but sufficient competency; and, with the priceless love of a dear and noble companion, and a son carefully trained in the paths of virtue and intelligence, he seems content to be passing along the latter half of the journey of life, quite regardless when or where the end may be, if honor and duty but accompany him to the close.

He has ever been an ardent lover of justice, equality, and the largest liberty of all men consistent with the public welfare—a true Democrat though called a Whig. He is a hater of violence and strife, but would, at any time within the last year, have volunteered to go to Kansas with a thousand of the freemen of the north, to protect the lovers of liberty from the cruel wrongs of Pierce, Douglass and Stringfellow slavery propagandists.

He was an agriculturist for many years, and is proud of having, either as superintendent or assistant laborer, aided in producing over sixty thousand bushels of wheat, and a vast amount of other products

to feed and benefit mankind, and therefor claims his title to the honor of a worthy citizen of the great American republic.

Has never used the ardent as a beverage, or the weed in any shape, always regarding the gifts of Providence as wisely bestowed for such moderate use as enlightened intellect shall sanction and direct. Has spent nearly all leisure hours in the realms of thought and fancy, inspired by Shakespeare, Scott, Byron, and other soul-ennobling authors, and in them even found a sweet companionship that never causes sorrow or regret, but leads the soul to heaven, while with earthly things it enjoys peace and delight.

M. LINDLEY LEE.

Doctor Lee is one of the leading men in the Senate, a close thinker and fluent debater. He is a most formidable opponent, and a most desirable advocate. He is a man of culture and spirit, and takes an intense interest in the social, moral and political reforms of the day. Like most men of his craft, he is decidedly opposed to whatever approximates to old fogysm. In person he is tall and thin, with a literary looking face, sharp, dark eyes and dark hair. He represents the Twentieth Senatorial District, and is on the committee of claims, medical societies, and cities and villages. He is not now much engaged in the practice of his profession, having the means to rest upon his oars.

M. Lindley Lee was born in Minisink, Orange county, of respectable parents in moderate circumstances; lost his father at nine years of age; spent, after ten years of age, summers at work on a farm, winters at school, until sixteen years of age. The next four years spent in teaching, fitting for college; graduated 1827, at Union College; united with Presbyterian church at fifteen years of age; studied medicine at Auburn; graduated at the Medical College of Western New York, located at Fairfield. Commenced practice at Havana, Schuyler county; before the close of the year, changed to Fulton, Oswego county, where he now resides. Continued practice eighteen years. Postmaster under Harrison. Elected to Assembly in 1847, '48, and to the Senate in 1855. Loan commissioner from 1849 resigned the office.

ELIAS W. LEAVENWORTH

Is a name familiar as a household word, in the state of New York, a spirited citizen, a first-rate lawyer, a shrewd political manager, and an able statesman. He needs not the endorsement of this sketch to place him in his true position before the American public. He was born December 20, 1803, in Columbia county; in 1805 moved to Great Barrington, Massachusetts; in 1819 fitted for college under the tuition of the Rev. Joel Parker—father of Amasa J. Parker, of Hudson; had previously studied at G. B. In 1820 entered Williams College, Mass., where he remained one year, when he entered Yale, one year in advance, and graduated in 1824. After spending two years in the Litchfield law school, then under the care of the Hon. James Gould, he was admitted to practice in all the courts of Connecticut. In Nov. 1827 he moved to Syracuse and entered into law business with Alfred

Northam. In 1829 B. Davis Noxon removed from Onondaga hill to Syracuse (the county seat being soon to be removed there), he entered into partnership with him, which continued ten or twelve years, when they took in his son George W., and his son-in-law George F. Comstock—now of the Court of Appeals. In 1842 B. D. Noxon and George W. Noxon retired from the firm, and James Noxon entered into the partnership. When Mr. Comstock was appointed reporter for the Court of Appeals, the firm was continued under the name of Leavenworth & Noxon, which remained until 1850, when Mr. L. retired.

In 1838-9-40, he was elected each year president of the village; in '39 and '40, supervisor of the town of Salina, then including Syracuse, Geddes and Liverpool. In 1846-7 he was again elected president of the village. In 1849 he was elected mayor of the city of Syracuse, in the spring, and to the Assembly the following fall. In 1853 he was elected secretary of state, and in 1856 again elected to the Assembly.

He is president of the Central City Bank, trustee of the Orphan Asylum, and connected with other charitable institutions. In 1853 he married Mary E. Foreman, an amiable and accomplished lady, daughter of the Hon. Joshua Foreman, of Onondaga.

Mr. L. is a man of extensive learning and exquisite taste, a profound thinker and splendid debater. He is a tall, trim-built man, with sharp, smoothly-shaved face, dark hair, blue eyes, Roman nose, and compressed lips, indicating great energy and decision of character.

D. C. LITTLEJOHN.

This gentleman, Speaker of the present Assembly, was born in Oneida county, in 1818. While young he removed with his parents to Albany, and, after a complete academic course, in which he acquitted himself well, went to Oswego in 1839, as a clerk in the commission and forwarding business, becoming a partner with his employer in 1842.

He has been twice Speaker of the Assembly, and at various times has held offices of trust and honor; but in his case these marks of public confidence, are to be spoken of as the means and not the end. He seems always to have considered power and place as carrying serious responsibilities, and not as comfortable resting spots for seekers of ease at the public expense—as valuable only for the accomplishment of some purpose. He is emphatically a man of purpose, and more, of purpose born in honesty.

In youth he is said to have been a boy of serious thoughtfulness, and, strengthened and tempered by experience and trial, his tone of mind still is candid and sober; while he by no means lacks the cheerfulness of disposition to be a pleasant companion. His prevailing temper is earnestness; his forte is practicality, with a sufficiency of philosophy to rescue his style of thought and expression from becoming narrow by too inflexible directness. Thus, in the consideration of questions of state economy or individual enterprise, a simple business man, like one who, walking between high hedges, sees only the strip of path before him, considers the profit and loss of the individual

case, and is done; while the philosopher, like he whose way leads through open meadows and wide spread landscapes, takes in not only the instance but the argument—not only that so much money is made, but that the operation has involved industry the parent of many virtues, incited competition the life of trade, and quickened the intelligence of all who have witnessed the successful enterprise.

Mr. Littlejohn, with enough of mere unmitigated arithmetic in his composition to be a model merchant, has, at the same time, the breadth of mind and scope of mental vision to be a statesman. He can scarcely be called a representative man, he has not sufficient originality for that, but he has what is better, the discipline of mind and judgment to recognize reason and truth, and detect fraud or fallacy. He does not create metals, but has an unfailing alchemy to test them. His mind as well as his temperament is such, that though a most formidable adversary from his quickness to see all the truth in a case, I doubt if he has the ability to invent a respectable sophism. He can't have a vagary, that would be flatly against his "constitution." Without intimate acquaintance it is hard to judge of the aesthetic development of any man, but I should presume order to be with him a fundamental condition, without which there is "neither shape nor comeliness." I doubt if he has thought of poetry since that insane period of youth when doggerel is a matter of course, or like emetics in some forms of sickness, an expedient to remove the bile.

It has been already said, that with him the acceptance of office is never for the empty honor, as honors go here, where as Dickens says every justice of the peace is *ex-officio* "one of the most eminent men of our country." His disposition is, if there be no preconceived object, to cast about and find what needs to be done. So, his first term in the Legislature (1853), was signalized by his efforts as a member of the canal committee, to procure the amendment to the constitution to aid the speedy enlargement of the canal; his second (1854), by the efficient law of that year, under which contracts on our public works have been let; and the third (1855 when he was Speaker), by the distinguished part taken by him in the election of Mr. Seward, as United States Senator. All will remember the widespread excitement of that period. Mr. Littlejohn was fiercely denounced by the Know Nothings, then in power, and finally *banished* from the lodges (though, I believe, he was never really a member of the order), with a grand flourish of trumpets.

"What's banished but set free
From daily contact with the things I loathe."

The boldness of his course at that time startled timid men, even of his own party. His own courage inspired others, and by carrying the war at once into the enemy's country, the Hindoos were routed and Mr. Seward elected.

It was charged against him that he had misrepresented his constituency, but this met a most unmistakable refutation in the action of the people who, during the height of the excitement, elected him mayor of Oswego, by an increased majority. The measures of this year in which he has been interested are well known through the public prints.

His speech on the quarantine question was most admirably con-

ceived, powerfully delivered and well-timed. The debate had been long and tiresome. As each speaker took his seat, the cry was "question, question." With shrewd calculation, Mr. L. husbanded his strength until the moment when, his opponents having all been heard, he could at one effort answer every argument, and close the discussion by a summing up which should conclude the whole case. The House was silent when he rose, and without *exordium* or warning he plunged into the middle of the subject, carrying every hearer with him. The important question was no longer in danger of being adjudged upon petty technicalities nor irrelevant reasoning. In ten sentences he had relieved it from the misty uncertainty in which blundering orators had befogged themselves, and the whole matter, by force of his clear logic and good sense, stood revealed, a measure of salvation to the great, helpless city that, like an unconscious child, played with the breezes which bore the vapors of death. There could be no answer, and the vote taken immediately after, showed by its conclusiveness, the effect of this able effort.

As a presiding officer Mr. S. is ready and decided, and has a calm dignity which no confusion or excitement can disturb. In speaking his whole manner is changed. He becomes nervous, impassioned, and even vehement; a feeble thought goes from his lips clothed with the added power of forcible enunciation and energetic delivery.

His manners have a genial suavity that never varies for persons nor subject; whether he addresses the great statesman or the messenger boy he is always the gentleman. For him, occasions seem to have no distinction, whether they be grand or simple, he is always self-possessed and adequate to the demands of the moment.

As a politician he is not over quick in decision, but once determined, positive and open in action. He has unquestioned shrewdness, but with such moral development as will prevent it from degenerating into mere cunning. Though he is not ambitious, he prizes public honor for what it is worth, and I expect yet to see him in the United States Senate.

Mr. Littlejohn was formerly a Whig. He is about forty years of age, is married, attends the Episcopal church. He is tall and rather thin; has dark hair, large, black eyes, a pale, thoughtful face, a fine forehead, and a good head.

CALVIN LITTLEFIELD

Is thirty-four years of age; is five feet nine inches in height, weighs 145 pounds; was born in Ellisburgh, Jefferson county; graduated at Union College in 1845; was principal of the Union Academy, Jefferson county, two years, Aurora Academy, Erie county, five years; took to the home farm for health and independence; elected to the Assembly of '54, re-elected in '55, re-elected again in '56 by two thousand majority. Mr. L. is a Republican, was formerly a Free Soil Whig, has always been a prohibitionist; attends the Presbyterian church. Mr. L. is a modest man, who shrinks from public stare; he is of the nervous temperament, has a pale thin face, blue eyes, brown hair and a fine forehead; he is a man of nice taste and good judgment and his word is a bond.

HARRIS LEWIS

Is one of the most respectable and influential men in the town of Schuyler. For many years he has been an active magistrate and a leading man in the county of Herkimer.

He was a Whig and worked in that party with great efficiency, until the anti-slavery enterprise assumed a phase which united the cream of all political organizations into a people's party. He has been frequently a delegate to conventions, a referee in cases of litigation, an executor in settling estates, &c. He owns and occupies a fine farm, which lies in the valley of the Mohawk. Much of his time is devoted to surveying, a science in which he excels. He is a member of the Baptist church; a man of few words, but possessing an extraordinary share of sound, practical common sense. He is never troubled with poetical hysterics, or enthusiastical convulsions, but always cool, calm and civil, friendly to all, but obstinately firm in the right. He is an out and out temperance man, a member of almost every variety of organization formed for the suppression of intemperance. He is a member of the committee of sixteen.

He is short and stout, about five feet four inches in height, with full breast and broad shoulders and straight back-bone. He is about forty-one years of age. Hair dark brown, eyes small and blue, face full and broad, with high cheek bones. He speaks deliberately, and in a low tone of voice, without a word of ornament, and rarely rises to speak in public. Like his excellent predecessor Mr. Green, he will not fail to win the confidence of the House.

Mr. Lewis was born in Chenango county, and came to Schuyler when he was twenty years of age. At that time he was poor and almost penniless; he now owns the farm on which he then worked as a hired hand. He is known by the *sobriquet* of "previous question." He is also member of the committee of sixteen and of the select committee on excise.

RALPH A. LOVELAND

Represents the rough but bold and liberty-loving county of Essex. Born at Westport in that county, nurtured amid its magnificent hills and inspiring scenery, his principles are as firm as the rocks of his native county. He was born in 1819 and is now 37 years of age. He commenced life without property, with a family dependent on his individual exertions. Rallying under circumstances that would have disheartened most young men, he has acquired a competency which insures him against the accidents of age. Having been extensively engaged in the transportation business and being familiar with the workings of the Champlain Canal, he was properly placed upon the canal committee by Speaker Littlejohn, who is quick to appreciate character, and, in this instance, prompt to recognize the Republican tendencies of Northern New York.

The position of Mr. L., next to Mr. Leavenworth, is, perhaps, the most enviable in the House for a new member. Mr. Leavenworth is a man of character and of varied accomplishments and Mr. Loveland will not fail to make the best use of his association. While Mr. Loveland will make no speeches no member will more clearly com-

prehend questions of business, nor will any one excel him in devotion to the duties of his position.

Mr. Loveland is a man of medium size, dark complexion, dark hair, dark eyes and heavy beard. He enjoys good health and is in full use of every mental and physical faculty. Affable in all relations he is yet cautious and can never be induced to support a measure, which he is not convinced, by examination, is correct. He is the last man for the "third house" to approach, and yet, if satisfied of the justice of a proposition, it would not matter from whom it comes. As a member of the Baptist church his deportment is in accordance with his profession.

DAVID B. LUCKEY

Represents Sullivan county. He is an American; attends the Methodist church; is fifty years of age; a farmer; is on the committee of grievances; he is a quiet, stay-at-home sort of a man, who minds his own business; he is of common stature, has dark brown hair, gray blue eyes, a weather-tanned face and an honest hand hardened by labor. In social intercourse he is unreserved and confiding.

THOMAS MULLIGAN

Emigrated to this country when quite young, his parents having died when he was only seven years old; he obtained his education in his native country, constantly devoting his time to that study, but being ambitious, like all others who wish to seek for more information than he thought could be afforded to him in his guardian's means, although possessed of more than the ordinary calibre of his school-mates; he wished to be on the onward march for the progressive age. Arriving on the shores of his adopted country, he settled down in the city of Brooklyn, then a village, obtained a clerkship in the glass factory, and from the stipend he received was enabled to yet continue his study, which he so much desired, by using his leisure hours in attending night school. When at the age of not quite twenty, he engaged in the grocery business on his own account, and from his uniform habits and his honest motives of principles and industry, he obtained all the confidence of the community, which was the means of leading to a successful business. After the lapse of eighteen years he abandoned that business and engaged in a more lucrative one, in the flour and feed business. During his term he was a strong Democrat of the Jackson and Jefferson principles, and advocated its principles publicly. He was sought by his party to take the office of collector of his city, he was elected; again sought for alderman and elected; again for supervisor, and now we find him in the Legislature of the state of New York. He is forty-two years of age; has been very successful in his business; has accumulated considerable property in the city, and has always taken a deep interest in its welfare. Mr. M. is a good-looking man, with black curly hair, blue eyes and red cheeks, he is rather above the medium stature.

DANIEL MAHEN.

There are few Representatives in the Assembly who occupy a similar position with Mr. Mahen. His most distinguished effort was brought forth by Mr. Varnum of New York, who endeavored to press

through his registry law, at a moment when the absence of all opposers promised it an unobstructed passage. But this champion of Democracy rose in the true dignity of his position, and with a defiant tone and crushing argument arrested the bill. He presented to the House a ballot-box, crying as he lifted it up: "Here is and ever shall be the receptacle of the votes of my people!" Mr. Mahen occupied a noted position also in the recent caucus Democratic Senatorial nomination. The Wood party had calculated upon his generalship in their behalf; some of his constituents were sent to Albany to co-operate with him in favor of their distinguished champion. But when the hour of test arrived, Mr. Mahen, with his characteristic independence, rose in conflict with the young champion of Democracy, and besought his city colleagues to unite with him in crushing fogysm and erecting the banner of Young America. Mr. Mahen is young and ambitious, and possesses a bold confidence which guarantees to his friends a bright future, and to himself a renowned and respected old age.

A gentleman from New York furnished us with the above. The following facts we obtained from another source.

Mr. Mahen's parents came from Ireland in 1818, and settled in Boston. After a few years they removed to the city of New York, where, in 1826, the subject of this sketch was born. In 1833 he was compelled to earn his living, which he did by selling newspapers, the *Sun*, *Herald*, *Transcript*, *Sunday Atlas*, &c. When he was thirteen years of age he was apprenticed to the United States Navy; after two years' experience he ran away. When quite a young man he obtained a situation in the Custom House—a position he has held for some time. Mr. Mahen is a very small man, has brown hair, blue eyes, and a sharp physiognomy. He speaks with his voice pitched at a high key, and can speak one or twenty-four hours, just as the case demands. He is now serving his second term in the Assembly.

PATRICK McFARLAN

Has the reputation of being one of the most civil and agreeable men in the House; he is quiet, seldom rising in his seat unless it be to announce the name of a bill. He is upwards of fifty years of age, rather under the medium height, wears a pleasant face; he is independent in his circumstances as well as in his principles. He is on the committee on the erection and division of towns and counties.

JOHN J. McPHERSON

Was born in Le Roy, Genesee county, in the year 1810, consequently he is forty-six years of age, although he looks ten years younger; he was brought up a farmer, but for the last eight years he has led a retired life, having acquired a comfortable competency; he was formerly a Whig, but is now a staunch Republican; he has been supervisor of the town in which he lives, and also justice of the peace; he was a candidate for the Assembly two years ago, but was defeated by the Americans; he occupies a good position in the House, and has as much influence as half a dozen noisy members can command; he is eminently practical, has a sound, discriminating mind and an unim-

peachable character; he is on the committee of roads and bridges; is a tall, finely formed man, has dark hair and whiskers, grayish-blue eyes, a bland countenance and gentlemanly address.

JOHN MILLER.

Mr. Miller was born in Columbia county; follows the plow; is a Democrat; has been supervisor of the town in which he lives; attends the Methodist church. He is one of those practical men whose voice and vote on practical and every-day business matters is worth more than the eloquence and erudition of men who are merely professional. Mr. M. is 43 years of age; a large, heavy, muscular man, with a healthy face, dark hair, full face and eagle nose; he is always on hand and ever attentive to business.

SAMUEL J. MOTT

Is an elderly gentleman; sits in what is termed sleepy hollow, but is wide awake to the interests of those whose servant he is. He represents the second district of Saratoga county; is on the committee of state charitable institutions. Mr. M. is fifty-five years of age; is a farmer; attends the Presbyterian church; a temperance man; was identified in early life with the anti-masonic movement. In person, is short, thick set, has blue eyes, gray hair; is a modest gentleman of considerable influence.

CHARLES H. MEAD

Represents the Fourth District of Onondaga; is a Republican; was formerly a Democrat; is on the salt committee; is forty-five years of age; married; attends the Baptist church; he is of the common stature, rather reserved in his manner; is cautious and deliberative; has brown hair, light eyes, and a face closely shaved. Report says he is a very substantial citizen, and fair Legislator.

EDWARD M. MADDEN.

Senator Madden represents the county of Orange, where he was born, has always lived, and where he will probably die, unless political events so shape themselves that his unquenchable love of liberty, and intense hatred of slavery should induce him to leave his Lares and Penates and migrate to Kansas. Like many other men of mark, he is wholly the artificer of his own fortune. He had no advantages of early education. From the age of 9 to 14 he commenced fitting himself for the great battle of life as an operative in a cotton factory; thence he pursued his studies as an apprentice in a tin shop, graduated in a hardware store, and took his final degree as a retail merchant at Middletown, where he now has a very extensive saw factory. Nature, however, has done much for him. Gifted with a fine constitution, his iron will, unbending energy, indomitable perseverance, and unflagging industry, have combined to make him a hard student and a well read man. His mind is well stored with practical knowledge and few men are so thoroughly posted in the political history of our state or country. There is no man in the Senate of greater pluck or

nerve. Governed in all his actions by fixed principles, nothing ever turns him from his purpose, when his course is once marked out. His sterling integrity and incorruptible honesty are as universally conceded as the chastity of Cæsar's wife. The state never had a more watchful guardian over its interests. He is extremely sensitive and jealous about all inroads upon the treasury—more so than if it were his own private purse. His active business habits make him invaluable on committees, and woe betide the unlucky wight who comes before him with a doubtful claim. He participates freely in all debates, dissecting the subtleties and sophistries of lawyers, with the sharp scalpel of common sense. He is a nervous, rapid speaker, and no man in the Senate is more earnest, energetic, forcible or convincing. He goes in a straight geometrical line right to the point, without any flowers of rhetoric, but with a directness that there is no mistaking. He uses no pearls of poetry or flights of fancy, but deals altogether in the purest and strongest Anglo-Saxon. His hard facts and statistics, compacted as granite, and his irresistible logic, need no ornamentation, as the friends of "Chemung Locks" and Jerry O'Brien sorrowfully testify. He always votes in accordance with his convictions. No motives of policy, expediency or interest; no regard for individuals or localities; no personal friendships, can make him swerve one hair's breadth from his line of duty. He engages in no "log-rolling;" never aiding any project of doubtful propriety to secure assistance in measures of real merit. There is no member of the legislature more disinterested; his only avowed object in coming to the Senate, having been to aid in the election of some such representative man as Preston King as U. S. Senator, and to help establish a sound state policy—to be one of those not only honest themselves, but who would not allow party friends to steal, by winking at schemes of public plunder, as has been too much the practice at Albany. He is extremely affable, sociable and pleasing, in his disposition and habits. He is a man in the very prime of life (38), of medium size, sharp blue eyes, dark hair, heavy beard, and wears on his face an expression of earnest thought.

GEORGE MOTT.

If the Democracy of New York have a true representative in the present Legislature, George Mott, of Franklin county, is that man. Conservative by nature in all his views and associations, he looks upon all reformatory measures with a suspicious eye, and is "death" on all the "isms" of the day. He loves the "old order" of things, and regards the questions of the day, the most of them, as out of place, and forced upon the public mind by designing politicians, for other than pure and patriotic purposes. Mr. Mott is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but far behind the prevailing sentiment of a portion of that body, he discards their extreme views of the slavery question, and approves of the decision of the General Conference of 1856, on the slavery question. He was a warm supporter of Mr. Buchanan during the late campaign, and was elected to the legislature by some two hundred and fifty majority.

Mr. Mott is of medium hight, rather stout built, with dark gray hair, and an intelligent and pleasant countenance.

He is a man of strong natural abilities, firm and decided, like all conservatives, in his positions, and highly respected by his fellow members for his sterling integrity.

Mr. Mott was born at Alburgh, Vt., January 24th, 1806, and is therefore fifty-one years old.

JOSHUA MERSEREAU,

A French name, and the man who has it carries a countenance indicative of French origin; the careful arrangement of the hair, the nice attention to matters of dress, the graceful gesture and the polite manner, all go to confirm our opinion that Mr. M. has Norman blood in his veins. Mr. M. represents Richmond county; is on the committee of colleges, academies and common schools; is a staunch, adamantine Democrat of the old school; he attends the Dutch Reformed church; is naturally conservative and opposed to what he terms the isms of the day. In his own county he has been frequently honored by his neighbors, having been supervisor one year, and county clerk nine years in succession. Mr. M. is about forty years of age; is a gentleman of leisure and fortune; a married man; has dark hair, dark brown eyes; wears his whiskers *à la militaire*.

NICHOLAS W. MOONEY

Is from the Fourteenth Ward—the Twelfth Assembly District—of the city of New York. He was born in the city of New York, in 1825, which fact makes him thirty-two years of age. He is a cartman, an occupation he has followed since his majority. He is now and always has been a Democrat (a Mayor Wood man). He was brought up in the Catholic faith; was a candidate for Assemblyman two years ago, but was defeated with the “hard shell” ticket. He has been member of the fire department for ten years and is now foreman of Hose Company No. 3.

Mr. Mooney is a short, stout man, with a round head, thick neck, full, fat face and broad chest; he has brown hair and dark eyes. He never speaks in public, but looks well after the interest of his constituents.

JAMES NOXON.

Senator Noxon is the youngest looking man in the Senate and is justly considered a leading member of that body. He was born in 1818, graduated at Union College in 1838, studied one year in the New Haven Law School, and was admitted to the practice of law in 1841, in the city of Syracuse; has been in partnership with Mr. Leavenworth, now of the House, and Judge Comstock, now of the Court of Appeals, and his father, a man of national fame as a leading lawyer. Senator N. was originally a Whig, but is now a Republican; he represents the Twenty-second Senatorial District; is chairman of the judiciary committee and a member of the select committee on the Trinity church affairs. Mr. N. is a sound lawyer, an able statesman

and an eloquent debater; he attends the Dutch Reformed church; is married. He is of small stature, has light hair, large blue eyes and a pale face; he is a sociable, companionable, free-hearted man, with a multitude of friends.

GEORGE S. NICHOLS

Represents the Tenth Senatorial District, having been sent there by an American constituency. Sometime since he went to California, and returned with his pockets filled with rocks. He is a farmer, about thirty-seven years of age, rather under the common stature, is of the nervous temperament, has auburn hair and blue eyes, seldom speaks unless it be to introduce a bill, and then a few words brings him to his seat. He is on the insurance committee; and is highly respected in all the relations of life. His place of residence is Athens, Greene county.

BENSON OWEN

Was born in Homer, Cortland county, N. Y., March 10th, 1807. His father, Lewis S. Owen, was a physician, who resided in that town about 50 years. Mr. Owen was admitted to the Bar of the Supreme Court of this state in 1830; practiced his profession in Allegany county some three or four years, when he removed with his family to the state of Ohio, where he resided until 1844, when he moved to Seneca Falls and engaged in the foundry and machine business. He has not pursued his profession as a business since his return to this state; was collector of tolls on the Cayuga and Seneca Canal at Seneca Falls during 1854 and 1855.

He has a family, consisting of a wife and one child. In person he is five feet ten inches in height, weighs about 130 pounds. He is a member of the Republican party and belongs to the anti-slavery wing of the old Whig party; is not a member but a regular attendant and supporter of the Presbyterian church. He is a man of sound mind and acute reasoning power; makes a sound and logical speech. Is a tall, thin man, with dark hair, greyish whiskers, very bright brown eyes, dresses neatly, is one of the first men in the House, a safe counsellor on Legislative matters. Mr. O. seems at home on any question, showing a mind well stored with information on general subjects. He is on the committee of ways and means.

J. J. OWEN

Is a practical printer—followed the "art preservative of all arts" for nine years, picking up type in Auburn, Rochester, New York, Havana, and elsewhere. In the spring of 1850 he started for California, remained two months in New Granada, and then returned home. In the fall of '51 he visited California, and was employed as messenger for Gregory's Express, on the Sacramento river, for about twelve months, when he entered the service of Wells, Fargo & Co., as messenger in the Golden state.

Having gratified his desire to travel in our El Dorado, he returned to his native state, and purchased a farm in Cayuga county, where he

now lives. He has been School Superintendent—was elected to the Assembly on the Republican ticket, obtaining upwards of nine hundred majority over the fusion candidate. He is a tall, straight, well-formed man, of the sanguine nervous temperament—has light hair, blue eyes, fair complexion, and wears a golden moustache—perhaps it grew on his face in California.

He is an amiable, modest man, of few words and quiet demeanor. He was formerly a Free Soil Democrat; he does not belong to any church, but entertains respect for the religious views of all honest men. He is friendly to the temperance enterprise; is a voting member, but can speak when duty demands his services in that capacity. His *forte* is with the pen. He has had considerable experience as a newspaper writer and correspondent, and is regarded by his friends as clear and vigorous in the expression of his views on paper. He is 29 years of age.

MORACE P. PERRY

Was born in the town of Moores, Clinton county, in the year 1811; now resides in the town of Champlain in the above county. Was a Democrat up to about 1834, when a crisis arose at the county seat, which determined his action in the future; being refused with many other citizens, the use of the county buildings or any other House to meet to discuss the subject of free soil, free speech and free men, were driven out by the citizens of Plattsburgh and obliged to meet in an adjoining town, since which time has been an unswerving friend of Republican principles; being in a minority in the county, never has held a county office until the present; is strong in favor of prohibition; a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Mr. P. is a short, thick-set man of the nervous bilious temperament; has dark hair, large features and herculean limbs; he is a warm-hearted man, and his greeting is very cordial; he is on the state prison committee.

JOSEPH H. PETTY

Represents the Fourth Senatorial District, having been sent to the Senate by Know Nothings; he is seldom in his seat; we have no personal acquaintance with him, but understand he is a broker; he has the reputation of being a clever fellow; he is a good parliamentarian; has been in the Assembly and has received other proofs of public confidence. He rarely participates in debate; he has a round head, red face, blue eyes and auburn hair. He is on the committee on banks, expiring laws, cities and villages, Kansas, &c.

HENRY A. PRENDERGAST

Was born in the town of Ripley in Chautauque County, New York, in the year 1821. His ancestors were among the earliest settlers of Western New York. As early as 1816 we find a member of the family in the halls of legislation from the then county of Niagara, which county then embraced territory out of which three or four new counties have since been made.

Having settled at an early period and turning their attention to agriculture, they became the possessors of some of the finest lands in the county and have been considered among the most wealthy and public spirited farmers in the west.

On the paternal side Mr. Prendergast is descended from Irish stock and in the early anti-rent difficulties on Philip's patent in Dutchess County we find the Historical Collections of the State mentioning Prendergast as the "*big thunder*" of that time. He was a native of Tipperary in Ireland and the great grandfather of the subject of this sketch.

On the maternal side his ancestors were real Vermonters and were among those who bore arms in the Revolution and knew well how to prize their dear bought liberties. Capt. Abell, the great grandfather, was in most of the severest battles of the Revolution and often has been honorably mentioned in history.

Mr. Prendergast entered Union College in the fall of 1838 and graduated in 1842. After finishing his collegiate course he entered the law office of D. Mann, Esq., of Westfield, New York, but before finishing his studies, his health becoming impaired, he retired to the healthy employment of the farm, where for a time he combined farming, sporting, literature and a restoration of health. It was amid these various avocations that he attended to another important matter in life, matrimony. He then retired to a farm of his own in his native town and during the time he has been engaged in tilling the soil, has contributed largely to the improvement of the stock of his county, having imported some of the finest stock that could be obtained in England. He has refused to enter public life until the politics of his county were changed by the sudden springing into existence of the American party. Early imbued with the doctrines of the Anti-Masonic party in this state, of which his ancestors were among the most zealous supporters, and hence feeling it his duty to oppose to the extent of his ability the proscriptive doctrines of the new party. In fall of 1855 he was induced to accept the nomination for the Assembly with about one thousand American majority in his district against him; he was opposed by two of the strongest men of the opposite parties, but was elected by about 450 majority. He was the candidate of the new Republican party for Speaker, and in the fall of 1856 was nominated by the party in his district by acclamation and elected by over 2000 majority.

Mr. Prendergast is premier of the house, being chairman of the committee of ways and means. He is a man of fine intellect, a good speaker and a thorough business man; in person he is tall (nearly six feet), of good mould, of the nervous sanguine temperament, has brown hair, blue eyes and pale features; he is very frank and genial and is honored and respected by all who know him.

ZOROASTER PAUL

Represents the Second District of Ontario county; is a Republican, was formerly a Democrat. The present is his first term in the House. He is now town supervisor; is a native of Washington

county, was born in 1811; graduated at Castleton Medical College in 1834; commenced practice in Erie county the following year; removed in '45 to Honcove, where he now lives and has a good practice. He stands high as an accoucheur and is very successful in the treatment of diseases.

He was elected in an American district, by a majority of nearly one thousand over the highest successful candidate.

Dr. Paul is a little under the medium stature, has blue eyes, hair turning gray prematurely, has a bold forehead and a face indicating earnest thought and honesty of purpose.

He is chairman of the committee on medical colleges, societies and schools.

Was formerly a Democrat; became a Free Soiler in 1848, voted for Hale in 1852; was one of the first and foremost in his county in the formation and organization of the Republican party; was elected supervisor of his town last spring, by a large majority over the combined forces of the Democrats and Americans. A man of liberal views in religious as well as in political matters. Is a man of untiring energy and perseverance; asks nothing except what is right, will submit to nothing wrong. Is 45 years old, 5 feet 6 inches in height, weighs 145 pounds. Was married in 1836 to Miss Susan Taber, of Wales, Erie county; his family consists of one son and one daughter. Is a self-made man.

THEODORE M. POMEROY.

H. Clarence Page, the talented and piquant Albany correspondent of the *New York Sun*, writing under his well known signature "Harry Haley," thus sketches this Representative in the Assembly. "Mr. Pomeroy is a native of Cayuga county, having been born in the town of Cayuga, and is now about thirty years of age. He is a lawyer by profession; in early life removed to the city of Auburn, in his native county, where in 1847 he was elected city clerk. In 1850 he was elected district attorney of the county, to which position he was re-elected in 1853. In 1850, when the Whig state ticket was beaten in his county by 250 majority, he was elected by 79 majority, and at the second contest for that office (in 1853) he was re-elected by 500 majority—clearly showing that no other proof is necessary of his popularity at home. Last fall (1856) he was nominated for the Assembly and elected by 1000 majority over the combined opposition.

Mr. Pomeroy is a Republican in politics, a young man of promise, and if we are to judge his future by his past, he may well be encouraged to persevere. Fate deals strangely with us all, and often the true and deserving are the subjects of her caprices, and must, sooner or later, bend to the decrees of stern destiny. We are too happy to say, however, that this is not the case in the instance before us; and not one of the honors conferred upon Mr. Pomeroy but what has been deserved and appreciated, and but what he has "borne them bravely." Mr. P. has quite a youthful appearance, is of sanguine

temperament, medium stature, and is a forcible speaker and a close reasoner. In the debates in the House, in which he has taken part, he has already won a reputation and prominence that commands the respect and consideration of his legislative associates, and he has all the qualities that lead to personal popularity, and all the abilities necessary to defend and vindicate any position he may assume on questions coming up before the people for their decision.

A. W. PECK

Was born in the town of Brownsville, Jefferson County, New York, within a few miles of his present place of residence, is a farmer and well to do in the world. At the age of eighteen he commenced teaching school, taught winters and worked on a farm summers, so alternating from the plow to the pen until he was twenty-five years of age. Since that time he has devoted his attention principally to agriculture; he has been town superintendent of schools, was formerly an old line Whig, is now a Republican. He is a modest, quiet, intelligent man, about thirty-two years of age, of small stature, has brown hair, dark eyes, and a round, ruddy countenance. He belongs to the class of good fellows; is on the committee on claims and on medical societies and colleges.

ENOS PUFFER

Is a giant in stature, a man of great muscular power, with a broad chest and sledge-hammer arm and fist, and woe be unto those, who provoke his *blows*, for he has been a blacksmith and knows how to *strike*. He worked at the forge until he was twenty-five years of age and then quit the anvil for the pulpit, and commenced preaching the Gospel under the auspices of the Episcopal Methodist Conference in Wyoming and Oneida counties, where he labored with great acceptance. He represents the county of Broome and is chairman of the committee on state charitable institutions. He is upwards of six feet tall and well proportioned, has dark hair, blue eyes, a florid face, and a free, generous heart. He is a jovial and sociable man.

JOHN E. PATTERSON

Is a tall silvery haired man, with blue eyes and intelligent countenance. He represents the Twenty-seventh Senatorial District; is chairman of the committee on grievances, on the poor committee and the committee on agricultural affairs. He is fifty-six years of age, an attorney, attends the Presbyterian church; a very upright and respectable man, who labors industriously for the weal of his constituents and the commonwealth.

ALBERT G. PURDY

Is a native of the town of Plymouth, Chenango county, N. Y. After attending common school, at the age of sixteen, he commenced the study of medicine, and was admitted to practice when he was twenty-one years of age. He commenced the practice of his profession in the town of Eaton, where he now resides. A few years since he was

nominated by the Democrats for the office he now holds, but was defeated by Mr. Bailey, of Brookfield.

Doctor Purdy is forty-eight years of age, five feet eight inches in height, well-formed; has a high, bold forehead, mild, blue eyes, brown whiskers, and dark hair. He is a practical man, seldom speaks, but what he says is to the purpose; is a self-made man, and when of age, owed for his medical tuition and had to borrow the means to commence the world with. He now occupies a high social position; is president of Madison County Medical Society—an institution in which he has held office for many years. He has been a Republican since the repeal of the Missouri compromise; attends the Congregational church. He is a member of the committee on claims, and as punctual as a clock, in the performance of his duties.

JOSEPH PEACOCK

Is a Republican, was formerly a Whig; is a temperance man; a member of the free Baptist church; a farmer; a married man; has been justice of the peace, a supervisor of the town, superintendent of the canal repairs, &c. He is a hale and hearty man, fifty-one years of age; stout built; has dark hair, blue eyes, broad forehead, and eagle nose.

This gentleman took his position on the Buffalo platform in '48, but left the Free Soilers when they began to fraternize with the Hunkers a few years afterwards. He is a man of great decision of character, and has the confidence of his constituents.

DAVID REES

Was formerly a Democrat, is now a Republican; represents Tioga county; was born in the city of Utica; is a bachelor, about forty years of age; has worked his way through life in the face of adverse circumstances. Is a fine looking man, with large dark eyes and prominent forehead; has black hair, and an iron temperament. He is a mechanic (a blacksmith).

At the age of sixteen he commenced to learn the business of making edge tools, with the firm of Winsor & Morris. At the age of eighteen he removed to Little Falls with Mr. Morris and completed the learning of his trade. In the year 1836 he went to New York and engaged in the business of stereotyping, and was there during the severe business pressure of '37, '38 and '39. Not succeeding well, he removed to Rochester in 1841, and engaged in the employ of the Rochester & Auburn railroad. In 1848 he engaged himself to D. C. McCallum, Esq., then contractor on the New York & Erie railroad, and was located at Port Jervis, Orange county; removed to Owego, Tioga county in 1851, and has since been engaged by the New York & Erie railroad company, in the manufacturing of bridge irons.

His education was a limited common school one. A fondness for reading characterized him in early life, and to this habit of reading, together with the highest moral training of his parents, he owes all that he is. Of strong, marked characteristics, he has always been

esteemed a leader rather than a follower of those with whom he has been brought in contact. Of social temperament, yet apparently distant, distrustful of his abilities unless fully aroused.

During his residence in Rochester he often received the commendation, in the social societies of the day, of his fellow citizens; and was one of the first in an organization of mechanics in that city for social and intellectual improvement. He also was elected to the highest offices in the Odd Fellows' Lodge, and acquitted himself with honor. When the charter for People's College was obtained in 1834, he was appointed one of the trustees, and has devoted much time and money to the establishment of that institution.

He received the largest majority ever given for member of Assembly in Tioga county.

JOSEPH H. RAMSEY.

An old proverb declares that articles of the most value are done up in small packages. Mr. Ramsey is the smallest person in the Senate—being only five feet four inches in height, precisely the stature of one of the most gifted kings of France. Mr. R. is well-proportioned; of active temperament; wears an amiable and pleasant face, which kindles with a genial smile when he recognizes his friends. He has dark hair mixed with a few threads of silver, mild, blue eyes, which sparkle when he speaks. He is forty years of age, a native of Schoharie county; studied law with Jedidiah Miller; has a good practice at the bar; was a delegate to the convention at Syracuse when the Republican party was organized; was a member of the Assembly in 1855, and elected to the Senate the year following. He is on the railroad and other committees. Speaks fluently and sensibly, and is a general favorite.

EDWIN ROSE,

Member from the First District of Suffolk, is a native of Bridgehampton, and a descendant of one of the original settlers of the town of South Hampton, which settlement was made in 1640; born Feb'y 14, 1807. After having received a common school and academic education, entered the U. S. Military Academy at West Point in 1826, graduated at that institution in 1830, and was in July of that year commissioned a brevet 2d lieutenant in the 3d regiment of artillery. During his service in that regiment he was engaged, in 1832, in the Black Hawk war with the troops, under Gen. Scott, and was present at the treaties made by the U. S. commissioner with the Saes and Foxes, and the Winnebagoes.

In July, 1834, he was detached from his regiment for service as typographical engineer, and in that capacity was engaged, under the direction of the secretary of war, in surveying the shores of lakes Huron and Michigan, and in making the preliminary survey of a railroad from Detroit to St. Joseph. While engaged in this latter service his company, Captain Frasers, of the 3d artillery, was ordered to take post in Florida, and composed a portion of the detachment

commanded by the lamented Major Dode, which was massacred by the Seminole Indians in December, 1835.

Upon the re-organization of the company in 1836, he was ordered to join his company in Florida, and was engaged in what is known as Jessup's campaign, which terminated in the defeat of the Indians at the big cypress swamp, in February, 1837. During this period of service, Mr. R. was appointed by the state of Illinois as engineer on the Michigan & Illinois Canal, which appointment he declined. In June, 1837, having accepted the appointment of engineer on the Detroit & St. Joseph railroad, he resigned his commission in the army and entered upon his new duties in the state of Michigan. In 1839 he removed to his native place, where he has ever since resided, in the occupation and improvement of his paternal inheritance.

In 1847 Mr. R. was nominated by the Whig party of his District as a candidate for member of Assembly, and was elected by a large majority, he being the first Whig member that Democratic old Suffolk ever sent to the Legislature; in 1848 he was re-nominated and returned by a largely increased majority. In March, 1849, was appointed by General Taylor, collector for the port of Sag Harbor, which office he held for four years.

In 1853, Mr. R. was nominated by the Whigs of the First Senate District as their candidate for Senator, but the question of a prohibitory law entering into the canvass, and Mr. R. being among the opponents of such a law, he was defeated. In the autumn of 1856, Mr. R. being a supporter of Mr. Fillmore, he was nominated by the friends of that gentleman as a candidate for the Assembly, and receiving also a large vote from the Democratic party, he was elected by a large majority. He is a man of fine figure, erect and commanding; is of the active temperament; has blue eyes, brown hair, and pale features; evidently a man of heroic impulses and daring courage.

VOLNEY RICHMOND

Was born in Rensselaer county, in the District he now represents. Was apprenticed to a carriage maker; followed that business fifteen years on his own account; then kept a public-house for several years. In 1840 was elected sheriff, then moved to Troy. At the close of the six years (in which time he served as sheriff and under-sheriff), he went into the foundry business; afterwards made the tour of Europe. On his return he purchased a farm in Hoosick, where his family now resides. He was formerly a Whig, is now a Republican. Attends the Presbyterian church; is a man of fortune; is fifty-three years of age, of sanguine, nervous temperament; has large, clear eyes; a ruddy, healthy face; heavy whiskers; brown hair sprinkled with silver. Is on the bank committee and the committee of sixteen. Is a director and vice-president of the Central Bank, Troy. He is a capital financier and thoroughly posted on all matters relating to banks and banking institutions, and his naturally strong mind has been improved by travel and intercourse with eminent men.

EATON J. RICHARDSON.

Notwithstanding the fact that Mr. Richardson takes such an interest in the divorce bill, which he originated and introduced into the Senate, he is a bachelor, and one of the handsomest men in the Senate. Mr. R. is a native of Utica; a lawyer by profession; a man of literary taste; of metaphysical turn of mind; a calm, close reasoner, whose forte consists in the investigation of first principles; has the reputation of being a good office and a good court lawyer. He is about forty years of age, rather above the ordinary stature; has a long head, square forehead, dark hair and dark eyes, a long nose which would do no discredit to a Jew; has a pale countenance, and wears a goatee. He represents the Nineteenth Senatorial District.

SAMUEL T. ROBERTS

Is a New York representative, although he votes to please himself, and by doing so sometimes provokes his fellow members from Gotham. Now and then he cracks a joke at the expense of those who poke fun at him. He is a gentleman of leisure, spending his winters in the city and his summers at Saratoga. He is the architect and builder of his own fortune. Although not a member of the canal committee, he has had some aquatic experience in such matters since the house convened. He represents the Sixteenth District of New York city; he is on the committee of charitable institutions. In person he is short, with a flushed face; is prematurely bald; is about forty years of age; a pleasant, sociable, jolly, sensible man, with a heavy purse and a great soul. Gives \$1,000 per year to the poor.

CYRIL RAWSON

Hails from Eagle, Wyoming county—being sent to the Legislature by a Republican constituency. Mr. R. is a native of the old Bay state, fifty-four years of age, five feet seven inches in height, of the nervous, sanguine temperament; has dark hair, reddish whiskers, blue eyes—wears glasses; has a mild countenance; is a man of firm resolution and sterling integrity; a temperance man; attends the Universalist church; is a mechanic. Has been inspector of schools, town clerk, supervisor, and session justice. Mr. R. was a school teacher several years. He is a very faithful and efficient man and heartily opposed to extravagant expenditures of the public money. Wyoming has no reason to complain of her public servants in the Legislature.

JOHN D. RHOADES,

The member of the Assembly from the First District in Onondaga county, is a farmer in easy circumstances. He is of the Puritan stock, and was born in Hampshire county, Mass., in 1801. He has been a resident of the town of Elbridge most of the time since 1810. Heretofore, in his politics he has been a Whig—an active, untiring worker—which made him loved by his friends and feared by his political enemies. He is one of that class of individuals whose motto is, "never give up the ship." He is connected by marriage with some of the most influential families in Onondaga county—most of whom

have been his bitter political opponents; but he has, by fidelity to his party and devotion to his principles, obtained a station which many individuals in that community consider the height of their ambition.

In personal appearance he is tall and dignified; in speech and argument he is direct and to the point. He has a tact of making all understand what he means, and the rare quality of sitting down when he is through—which many never can learn. He is a Baptist, though not bigoted or sectarian. On the temperance question he has been as firm as the pyramids of Egypt, freely giving his time, money and influence, to close up the grogeries and stop the traffic.

When the great Whig party split on the rock of slavery, he was among the first who were found gathering together its broken fragments, uniting them with those of the Democratic party who would not bow to the giant Moloch of slavery, and organizing them into the present Republican party. His hatred of slavery and intemperance, his firmness and integrity of character, his energy and stability of purpose, eminently qualify him for opposing the corruptions of lobby influence and the venality of party demagogues. He is decidedly popular with the laboring classes, and a warm friend of the poor. We predict that the interests of the empire state will not suffer from the power placed in his hands by the people of old Onondaga.

NATHANIEL ROE

Represents the Sixth Assembly District of the city of New York (the eighth) the empire ward of the Democracy. He was, formerly, from Goshen, Orange county; has lived in New York twenty years; is owner of real estate; was brought up on a farm. He attends the Presbyterian (Dr. Spring's) church. He is a man of excellent morals and unimpeached integrity. Mr. R. is forty years of age, of small stature, wears a bright, cheerful, good natured face; has a broad, prominent forehead, blue eyes and fair complexion. He is universally esteemed for his gentlemanly deportment. He is on the committee of public lands, and is one of the constant members who watches carefully the welfare of his constituents.

Mr. R.'s father, Thomas W. Roe, was in the war of 1812—he died in the year 1828. In 1854, Mr. R. was a member of the common council of the city of New York, and on the committee of public buildings on Blackwall's Island; also, on ordinances; was a delegate to the Tammany hall convention which nominated delegates to revise the state constitution, in 1846.

JAMES J. REILLY.

Mr. J. Reilly, although a member of the minority party in the House, is a general favorite; he is a sociable, pleasant and companionable young man; was born in the city of New York, in 1832, consequently is only twenty-four years of age. He is a Democrat, dyed in the wool, and watches with an eagle eye the interests of his constituents and his party. He attends the Roman Catholic church. His father died when he was seventeen years of age, and being anxious to do something to support a widowed mother, two sisters and a younger

brother, he ventured to California in pursuit of a fortune. He remained in the golden land about two years and then returned to his native city, where he shortly afterwards received an appointment as clerk in the New York post-office, under the Hon. J. V. Fowler. Mr. Reilly discharged the duties of clerk to the entire satisfaction of all parties concerned, and resigned the position a short time before he was elected to represent the Thirteenth Ward in the General Assembly. Mr. R. is a well-looking young man, with a full, merry face, blue eyes, dark hair and whiskers, and a well-developed figure. He dresses neatly; speaks occasionally and votes according to the wishes of his constituents. He is on the committee of public printing, and is prompt and faithful in the discharge of his duties.

JAMES RIDER.

Senator Rider represents the First Senatorial District; is a resident of Jamaica, Queens county; a true temperance man; has been grand deputy and worthy patriarch of the Sons of Temperance; was a Soft Shell Democrat, but the Softs left him because of his cold-water proclivities; was elected to the Assembly in 1854. Mr. R. is a man of sterling integrity, and fair ability, esteemed wherever he is known, and his honest face commands the confidence of all who see him. He is a deacon of the Presbyterian church; reputed wealthy; is about sixty years of age, hair quite gray, eyes blue, mouth and chin finely cut, feathers of the Puritan cast.

JOHN J. REILLY.

Mr. Reilly was born in the Seventh Ward of the city of New York, in the year 1829, and is now twenty-eight years of age. At an early age he became an apprentice, and acquired that branch of mechanical art known as "house carpenter," and worked at his trade until 1852, and in January, 1853, was appointed clerk in the register's office, in the city of New York, where he remained until 1855, when the Americans elected the register, when he was ousted. A short time afterward he was appointed by R. B. Connelly, Esq., county clerk of the county of New York, to fill a vacancy to a clerkship in his office.

In 1854 Mr. Reilly was a candidate for legislative honors, receiving the Democratic nomination in the Seventh Ward (Fifth Assembly District), against Edwin L. Smith, American and Soft Shell, and S. T. McKinney, Whig. Mr. R. was beaten by Mr. Smith by 262 majority. In 1855, he was re-nominated by the Democrats, and ran against Edmund P. Barrow, Whig and Republican (who also received the American vote), but Mr. Reilly beat the combined opposition by 157 majority. He was again nominated on the Democratic ticket last fall (1856), and ran against Edwin Merritt, American, S. L. Woodford, Republican, and Thomas L. Faron, Democrat. The vote in the District stood thus: Reilly, 2106; Merritt, 1156; Woodford, 720; Faron, 148; giving him nearly one thousand majority over the next highest candidate, and eighty-two majority over all.

Mr. Reilly has, for five years, occupied the position of secretary of engine company No. 6, popularly known as "big six," and is gener-

ous, even to a fault, as all firemen are. They are the chivalry of modern times—and the only true chivalry now extant. The hand may be rough, the mind uncultivated, but the heart is kind, the person brave, and the spirit undaunted and unflagging.

Mr. Reilley is a young man of pleasant exterior, is no hand at forensic display; has many friends in the legislative circle, and represents his constituents truly and faithfully, and is in every way worthy of their confidence and esteem.

SIDNEY SMITH

Is from Onondaga county—represents the Second District; is a Republican, was formerly a Democrat. He is a temperance man, a farmer—forty-two years of age; is a voting, not a speaking member. Mr. Smith is a man of common size; has dark hair, brown eyes, reddish whiskers, and a round, full, healthy face. He is a plain, honest, unpretending, straightforward man, a hater of flams and shams and proud pretensions, and a lover of the right and true—just such a man as no one would dare to approach with a bribe.

We have a number of such men, of different political predilections, in the House, and it is no flattery, but fact, to say, that office needs them more than they need office.

A. M. SMITH

Is a son of Captain D. Smith; is a native of Otsego county, a farmer and speculator; has always been an active business man; has dealt in cattle, wool, butter and cheese; was educated at Oxford Academy; has been frequently honored by his constituents; has been supervisor of the town; has had considerable military experience; was commander of a regiment nine years; was two years grand treasurer of the Grand Lodge of New York; was two years representative to the National Encampment, and two years in the Senate. He is a man of energetic physical power, sociable, friendly; does not court nor shrink from opposition; has impetus, efficiency, energy; has blue eyes, dark hair, stout-built frame.

W. M. SMITH

Is a native of Paterson, N. J.; removed to Alleghany county, N. Y., when five years of age; at fifteen, commenced his academic studies at Wyoming, N. Y.; at twenty-one graduated as doctor of medicine at one of the New England colleges; commenced practice in the town of his adoption, and has been engaged since in the duties of his profession in that place, with but brief intervals. Early and ardently engaged in the temperance movement. His antecedents are democratic. In the division of the Democratic party he espoused the principles of the Soft Democracy. Sympathized and was actively engaged in the earliest movements of the Republican party. Was chosen supervisor of the town in March 1857. As a boy, was poor and struggled hard to acquire an education; is now in the enjoyment of comparative independence, and has one of the most extensive rides in western New York. He is a tall, straight, handsome man, with sloe-black eyes, raven hair and dark complexion; a man of keen perceptions, sound judgment, and nice taste. His parents were from New England, and of the revolutionary stock.

JUSTIN A. SMITH

Was born 1818, in the town of Whitehall in the county of Washington; was brought up on a farm, has been clerk in a store; when quite a young man was inspector on the Champlain Canal; afterwards returned to farming. In 1849 he was employed by the Saratoga and Whitehall Railroad Company, and is now in the service of that company. Mr. S. is a stout-built, hearty, heavy man, with a full, round, rosy face, large, blue eyes that sparkle with fun and good nature; he is rather bald, but the lack of hair shows a fine head, which shows no lack of brains.

Mr. S. was in the Assembly in 1854; he is now on the committee on expiring laws, one of the committee on the division of towns and counties, and chairman of the committee on the internal affairs of towns and counties. Mr. S. is a married man; attends the Protestant Episcopal church. Mr. S. speaks with considerable unction, and when excited his speech approximates to eloquence. He represents the magnificent counties of Washington and Saratoga, every acre of which has been rendered classic by revolutionary scenes and reminiscences.

C. P. SMITH,

Senator from Kings county, is a gentleman who has risen from a very small beginning to be a person of decided influence. He is a native of New England; came to the then village of Brooklyn about twenty-five years ago; entered into the practice of law; was successful; elected clerk of the common council when Brooklyn became an incorporated city; he was afterwards elected mayor. He has filled many offices in that city, and stands among her citizens as one of the most respected and energetic of her enterprising citizens. The election of such a man does both honor to the Senate and to the city who sends him. He is a magnificent looking man, with large, black eyes and heavy brow, which forcibly remind one of Daniel Webster.

MARK SPENCER,

Senator from New York, is an elderly gentleman, with a head of hair white as snow, though he possesses the activity and energy of a young man of thirty. Mr. S. is a retired merchant, living in the Ninth Ward of that city, in a beautiful cottage surrounded with fruits and flowers. He is a gentleman active in the benevolent institutions of the day, and an ardent member of the Episcopal church. In his habits quiet and retired, yet active in the discharge of his duties as Senator. Among all that know him the wonder is, how it came to pass that the city of New York could send so amiable and accomplished a gentleman to represent them. He stands very high among his clique, as evinced by their electing him as their president, although not a member of the dominant party.

GEORGE T. SPENCER

Was born in Middleton, Connecticut. When a lad he spent his summers in a factory amid the hum of spindles and the clank of machinery; when older grown, he spent six years at school fitting

himself for college; he graduated at Yale in 1837; then taught school for one year; afterwards read law in Hartford, in Judge Ellsworth's office; and afterwards, pursuing his studies in Syracuse, was admitted to practice in 1841, and put out his shingle in the town of Corning, Steuben county. He is a Republican; on the judiciary and other committees; he is forty-two years of age, tall and well-shaped, has brown hair and blue eyes. He is a man of marked ability, but never enters the arena of debate without putting on his armor, and the lance he tilts is pretty sure to impale his opponent.

GEORGE G. SCOTT

Is a man of fine personal presence, tall, straight, and of faultless form; the ordinary observer would select him in a crowd, as a man of superior intellect and power. His soft, light hair and magnetic eyes, and fair skin, denote that delicate sensibility and exquisite feeling for which cultivated men of the nervous temperament are noted.

Judge Scott was born in Ballston, Saratoga county, in 1811; graduated at Union College in 1831; was admitted to the bar, and commenced practice at Ballston Spa in 1834, where he still practices his profession with eminent success. In 1838 he was appointed Judge of Saratoga county, but resigned before the expiration of his term. He was elected to the Assembly in 1855, and returned to his seat in 1856; he is a Democrat, and one of the strongest men in the Legislature. In debate he is calm, deliberate, and argumentative; as a legislator he is careful, judicious and conservative; he is a member of the judiciary committee, and the committee of sixteen. It may not be amiss to state here, that in the county where he lives and in neighboring counties, he has such a hold on the confidence of the community, that he tries more cases as a referee than any other man in the county.

DANIEL E. SICKLES

Has a national reputation, and is really one of the most noticeable men in the Senate, as he is one of the ablest debaters. It will be remembered that he was once bearer of despatches to London, and secretary of legation under Buchanan; hence, he is now in full feather and one of the strong powers behind the throne. It must not be forgotten that he once sent a challenge to John Van Buren, who preferred a feast of humble pie to pills of lead, and powders of sulphur and salt-petre—yes, Dan has pluck, and will fight in an emergency. He is a native of Glen's Falls, Warren county, but his parents moved to Brooklyn when he was quite young. From what we can glean of his history, he was a "fast boy," whose early political education was democratic—he being a graduate of Tammany hall, and is now one of the sachems in that national school of politics. He is certainly one of the ablest young men in the Democratic party in the state of New York. As a manager he has few superiors; as a speaker he is choice in the use of language, clear in his statements, and logical in the management of his argument.

He has been in the Assembly; now represents the Third Senatorial District. He is on the committee of grievances, Indian affairs, and

judiciary—at the present writing he is seeking office for his friends. He is a lawyer; a married man; rather aristocratic; generous and impulsive. In person he is tall, and well built; is of sanguine, nervous temperament; has brown hair, wears a brown moustache *à la* French style; has large, light, magnetic eyes, and a superb head. He is about forty years of age—a sharp sickle, reaping laurels in the field of politics.

ANDREW SHEEHAN

Is seldom in his seat and we have not the pleasure of his acquaintance, and have to depend upon others for the scanty materials for a sketch. He represents the Fourth Ward of the city of New York; has just returned from California, with a full pocket and broken health; he is an Irishman, a Catholic, a Democrat. Ill health has detained him at home when he would like to have been in his seat attending to the wishes of his constituents.

S. SOMERVILLE.

Mr. Somerville is from Warren county, and on the committee of charitable and religious institutions. He has been detained at home by sickness during a greater part of the session. He is a quiet, honest, fair-looking man, in the prime of life; votes with the Republican party; is a farmer, and has the appearance of an independent lord of the soil.

ERASTUS STICKNEY

Is from the county of Orange, and represents the Third District in that county; he is a Democrat; a farmer; a man of family; has been justice of the peace. He is about forty-six years of age, rather below medium height; has brown hair tinged with gray, small, blue eyes, and a smoothly-shaven face. He is a member of the salt committee.

ROBERT STAPLES

Represents the Third District of Monroe county; is a Republican; a temperance man; attends the Methodist church; has been justice and supervisor; is sixty-three years old; hair iron gray, whiskers ditto; face strongly marked. He is a man of standing and character. He is chairman of the committee on public printing.

JAMES S. SLUYTER

Is one of the most popular members of the young democracy of the city of New York. Long before we met him, he had become familiar to us as the social, generous Sluyter, and upon acquaintance we realized the justness of the reputation. We have known very few men capable of indulging in all the pleasures and gaieties of life, and yet preserving an equal position of respect and dignity. We have seen him to-day as frolicsome as a boy, and perhaps to-morrow an old man will lean upon his arm and counsel with him in all the seriousness of his profession.

He was early wedded to a young and beautiful girl, with whom he passed, upon the banks of the Hudson, a life of happiness until her death; we have heard from those who knew her well, that earth seldom received a lovelier form, or heaven a purer spirit.

Great credit is due Mr. Sluyter from the Democracy for his adherence to their faith, as his most intimate business associates are Republicans, and his distinguished partner, Dudley Field, occupied an important position in the late Republican movement in the state. Some of the New York journals have called in question his fidelity to the Democratic party, and have intimated that his associates were winning him over to the Republican ranks; but those who know him, are persuaded that a deep current of democracy flows through all his sentiments, and the ties of friendship can never divert it from its course.

That Mr. S. is a man of talent can not be doubted, and that he has not exercised it more energetically during his present representation, is owing to the fact that, his being in the minority party, would render such efforts comparatively useless. Mr. Sluyter is thirty-three years of age, of commanding appearance, cultivated address, warm impulses, and pleasant expression.

BENJAMIN SQUIRES.

Mr. Squires represents the Second District of St. Lawrence. He is a native of Vermont, came to this state when a boy fourteen years of age, and followed the occupation of farming. When of age, he extemporized himself into a carpenter, and was a good workman the first day he worked at the trade (being a natural mechanic). He continued in that business about twenty years, when he was elected sheriff of the county of St. Lawrence. He was supervisor of the town for six years in succession; also held the office of justice of the peace and that of postmaster in the town of Pierpont.

Mr. S. was formerly a Whig—one of the first Whigs in the town of Canton who came out in favor of Republicanism. He was sent to the Assembly by the Republicans, and they were so well satisfied with his actions in the House that they returned him to his seat. He was for many years a near neighbor of Silas Wright, and relates many interesting reminiscences connected with the history of that eminent and honored statesman. They were associated, not only in civil but military life; though differing in politics, they always agreed upon other points, and were very near and dear friends.

Mr. Squires attends the Methodist church; he is sixty years of age; a large, full-breasted, fine looking man, weighing 220 pounds. He is a man of great influence in the House, and has ten times the power of all the noisy Nancys who hop up to explain, apologize and excuse themselves, at the expense of the esteem of their friends. He is a man of sterling honesty and true courage. May his shadow never be less.

He is chairman of the committee on state prisons, and a member

of the select committee on the question of capital punishment.* He is marked for soundness of judgment and unswerving integrity.

MARTIN SCHUTT

Is a native of Ulster county; lives in the town of Olive; is a farmer, and licensed attorney. He was formerly a Whig, but is now an American. He is a justice of the sessions; opposed to prohibition; attends the Methodist church; is a married man. He has dark hair and eyes, and a dark complexion; is a quiet, nervous, serious, careful man, of unexceptionable character.

He is now forty-two years old; married in 1838, then not worth one dollar; has no children; is a justice of the peace, and has been for eleven years; justice of the sessions in 1851; admitted to the bar in 1851; now resides in the village of Shakar in the town of Olive; owns house, lot and office, and doing a good business.

EBENEZER S. STRAIT

Represents the Third District of Rensselaer county; is an American, a lawyer, practicing in East Nassau; is a married man, thirty-two years of age; is on the committee of erection and division of towns and counties, and the committee of privileges and elections. He is tall and well-formed; of the nervous temperament; has light brown hair, blue eyes, and a well-developed forehead. He stands well in the House, and has labored faithfully and zealously for the welfare of his constituency.

EDMUND G. SUTHERLAND

Is from White Plains, Westchester county; he is on the committee of public printing, and on the census committee. Mr. S. is a man of superior ability as a political writer, he stands high in the esteem of the party which honored him with its confidence and its suffrage. He is the editor of one of the oldest and ablest journals in the section of the state where it is published. He is a tall, noble looking man, with dark hair, blue eyes, rather pale features; his large perceptive faculties give his well-developed forehead a retreating look; a phrenologist would pronounce his head eminently fitted for legislative business. He has the good taste to vote according to the wishes of his constituents, without wasting the time of the House and the people's money by making Buncombe speeches.

SIDNEY SWEET.

Senator Sweet, by a singular coincidence, has been put upon the committee of salt; but he is a man whose character needs no such preservative to keep it pure amid the corruptive influences of political associations. Mr. S. is an eminent business man, a banker in Dansville, Livingston county. He is in the meridian of life; has brown hair, blue eyes, and a smoothly-shaven face. He holds a check rein on all who have a claim on the public purse; he is on the committee of claims and poor laws, and watches, with sleepless vigilance, for the best interests of his constituents.

RICHARD U. SHERMAN.

Mr. Sherman was born at Vernon, in Oneida county, 1819. He received a good school and academical education, and at the early age of fourteen commenced life on his own hook, as a merchant's clerk in an extensive wholesale establishment in Utica, where he received a thorough commercial education.

It had been his intention to adopt the profession of engineering, for which he possessed great natural aptitude, but the financial difficulties of that time putting a stop to all active public work on the railroads and canals, he was compelled to abandon his cherished wish.

Having a distaste for trade, he engaged, on completing his mercantile apprenticeship, in 1840, in the publication of a campaign newspaper at Utica, devoted to the success of the Whig Presidential candidates. The reputation he gained in this effort led to his engagement, in the subsequent year, as the leading editor of the *Utica Daily Gazette*, when that paper was established.

In his political ideas he was of the progressive school. Differences of opinion between himself and the proprietor—who was attached to the conservative wing of the Whig party—induced him to leave the editorial management of the paper at the end of the first year.

He was subsequently engaged for six years as editor of different newspaper publications. He conducted the *Herkimer Journal* during the Clay campaign of 1844 with marked spirit and ability, and in 1846 he edited the *Daily Advertiser* at Oswego.

In the year following he established, at Rochester, in connection with Erastus Clark, (present recorder of Utica,) the *Daily Evening Gazette*, a paper devoted to the nomination of Gen. Taylor for the Presidency, in which cause it rendered an energetic and consistent support.

He subsequently engaged in the publication of the *Morning Herald* in Utica, of which paper he was the principal editor during the first three years of its existence. The *Herald* was established as the organ of liberal Whig principles, in opposition to the *Gazette*, which had become wholly devoted to the policy of the Silver Greys.

The rivalry between the two papers was fierce and bitter, and Mr. Sherman was subjected to heavy pecuniary loss in his efforts to place the *Herald* on a successful footing.

He ceased his connection with the *Herald* on his election as Clerk of the Assembly, in 1851. The paper had at that time succeeded in gaining a large circulation, and an extensive and prosperous business. It has since swallowed up its old rival, and the two papers, the *Herald* and *Gazette*, are now united and doing good service in the cause of Republicanism.

He was first elected Clerk of the Assembly over a number of powerful antagonists, and, though he entered upon the office without any previous experience in its particular duties, he showed himself at home in the position from the start, and soon gained a reputation for executive ability equaled by few of his predecessors and surpassed by none. He occupied the position five years, retiring at the expiration

of that time to assume a position, perhaps more honorable, but certainly no more arduous or responsible, as a Member of Assembly from the First Assembly District of Oneida county.

Mr. Sherman possesses a mind of great acuteness. His perceptive faculties are uncommonly strong, and in most matters with which he has to do, he reaches, almost by intuition, the conclusions which, with the generality of men, are only arrived at by laborious study. His mind is all order and system, and he possesses great power of analysis. He is quick in thought and action, clear headed and capable of performing a great amount of mental labor in a limited time, and with a variety of subjects on his mind at the same time does not get confused. These elements of character have given him his widespread reputation as a parliamentarian.

He is a terse, vigorous and forcible writer, drawing his arguments from facts rather than from theories, but makes no pretensions as a speaker.

Frank and generous in character and affable in his manner, he makes warm friends wherever he is known. At home he enjoys an unbounded personal popularity. He has gone through nearly the whole range of municipal honors in his city, and has for several years been one of the most valuable members of the board of supervisors of his native county. As an estimate of his standing in the latter capacity, it may be mentioned that in his first year, though the junior member of the board, he was elected its presiding officer. He has been prominently connected with nearly all the public enterprises in his county for the last ten years.

He took an active part in the organization of the militia under the new law of 1851, and now commands one of the finest brigades of uniform troops in the state.

He was chief engineer of the fire department of Utica during a portion of the incendiary period, when the emergency called for the exercise of the highest powers of command.

He has, for many years been at the head of the political organization of his party in Oneida county, and enjoys a reputation for great sagacity and efficiency as a politician.

C. W. TALLETT.

Mr. Tallett was born in Oneida county, in 1819. He is of German descent. His father died when the subject of this mention was but three years old. At the age of four he was taken into the family of a distant relative, in Chenango county, and trained to agricultural pursuits.

As soon as he had passed his minority, he engaged in teaching common school, and in the spring of 1841 entered Clinton Seminary, where he remained three years, passing through the necessary preparation for admission to college. Want of means induced him to engage again in teaching, an employment of which he was passionately fond, and in which he was eminently successful.

He then commenced the study of medicine, under Drs. Thomas & Gardner, in Whitestown, and graduated at the College of Physicians

and Surgeons, New York, in 1849. He soon after located in Whites-town, commenced the practice of his profession, and was twice elected town superintendent of common schools.

In the spring of 1853 he removed to West Exeter, Otsego county, his present residence, and engaged in agriculture during the summer, and teaching during the winter.

In the spring of 1856 he visited Kansas, for the purpose of fixing on a future home, and contributing to the cause of freedom in that persecuted land. He passed up the Missouri river in company with Major Buford and regiment, and learned all the plans and designs of that distinguished filibustering expedition. He took a claim of 160 acres on the Santa Fe road, nine miles south of Lawrence, and commenced improvements by getting out timber for a frame house, &c. He heard much of the testimony taken by the Congressional committee, and became acquainted with Govs. Robinson and Reeder, and other distinguished characters in the territory. He was stopped and searched by Marshal Donaldson's posse, at the point of the bayonet (in the hands of Buford's men); witnessed the murder of John Jones at Blanton's bridge, on the 19th of May, and the destruction of the printing press, the Free State hotel, and Gov. Robinson's house, on the 21st.

After witnessing much of the wrong and outrage perpetrated upon the free state settlers in that territory, and finding it impracticable to locate his family there, he returned to Otsego county about the first of July, and was soon induced to take the stump for Fremont and freedom. He was presented as a candidate for the Assembly in the Second District of his county, and was elected by 700 majority over his popular opponent, Gen. Brown of Cooperstown.

Mr. Tallett is a small, spare man, with a thin, sallow face, dark eyes, black hair; wears moustaches; is quick and nervous; has a good mind; speaks with electric force.

HIRAM TIFFT

Was born at Venice, Cayuga county, N. Y., in 1811, and is consequently forty-five years of age. He is a farmer by profession, industrious, enterprising and intelligent. He has none of that false pride which keeps some men from soiling their hands in their own fields; but seems proud of his business. In 1839 he emigrated to Illinois, but returned on the death of his father, in 1849, and took possession of the family estate.

Mr. Tift was formerly a Democrat. He stepped on the Buffalo platform in '48, and has since consistently adhered to its principles. He did not vote for Pierce in '52, believing him to be unsafe; neither did he vote for Scott, nor Hale. Voted for E. B. Morgan at that election, against the Democratic candidate (a northern doughface), although receiving the censure of his own party friends.

He early took a decided stand in the temperance reformation, and has since maintained a consistent attitude in every ordeal through which it has passed. When clouds loomed up the darkest, then most has his cheering voice been heard. It is to his firmness of purpose,

reliability and principle, with an honesty of intention above reproach, that he owes his present position as a state legislator. He is a hearty-looking man, has brown hair, reddish whiskers, and ruddy face. He is a man of energy and strict integrity.

AUGUSTUS J. TIFFANY

Was the nominee of the American party in the First Assembly District in Erie county (Buffalo), but was supported by the Republicans, and voted with the Republican party in the House. He was formerly a farmer, but is now engaged in the forwarding and commission business, and of course in favor of the enlargement of the canal, and goes for discriminating tolls. Has been a member of the third House for twenty years and is well posted on parliamentary usages. He is on the committee on commerce and navigation. Mr. T. is forty-seven years of age, of stout build, broad shouldered, and a man of great muscular strength; has dark hair, dark eyes, brown whiskers snowed with white. He is a man of warm and generous impulses; a practical business man, with energy enough for a township of lymphatic men. Gerrit Smith gave him the name of Buffalo.

SOLON O. THACHER.

The subject of this sketch is a fair specimen of "young America;" one that can, dare and do. He represents the Third District of Steuben county, and this is his first term. He has been a Whig, but is now an out-and-out Republican, earnest for the advancement of humanity. He was born and brought up at Hornellsville, and cherishes a patriotic desire for the advancement and prosperity of the home of his boyhood. In Alfred Academy he received a course of education preparatory for college, after which, he entered Union College, where he graduated with considerable honor; after which he studied law at Albany, and was admitted to practice in March, 1856. Mr. Thacher is now twenty-six years of age; and possesses the elements of an effective speaker. Has light hair, a pale, healthy face, mild, blue eyes, with a soul behind them.

Mr. T. is a man of nice taste, and his talents promise a bright future. It is pretty generally conceded, that he made one of the most eloquent speeches heard in our legislative halls during the session. He is on the committee of colleges, academies and common schools, and on the committee of privileges and elections.

ABRAHAM G. THOMPSON

Represents the Second Assembly District of Suffolk county, and is on the sub-committee of the whole, and the joint library committee. He was a member of the House from the city of New York in 1845; is a Democrat; attends the Presbyterian church; is a married man, forty years of age; a stout, hearty-looking person, with rosy cheeks and dark, curly hair, blue eyes and black, heavy whiskers; he is a genial, generous and brave fellow; a practicing physician; studied in Columbia College, afterwards spent two years in Paris; pays particular attention to surgery. Doctor T. was born in the city of New York;

the names of his ancestors are interwoven into our national history. In the old homestead now occupied by his mother, is a bullet mark made by a ball aimed at his grandfather, who was afterwards hanged by the British, but cut down by his friends before life was extinct. Doctor T. is a lineal descendant, in the female line, of William Brewster, of Plymouth Rock memory. He is son of the celebrated Jonathan Thompson, collector of the port of New York—the man who presided at the first political meeting held at Tammany hall, and who was chairman of the general Republican committee for ten years, and known by the *sobriquet* of “honest Jonathan.”

Dr. T. is one of those attentive and efficient men who labor assiduously to serve those who honor them with their confidence and their suffrage. He not only works faithfully, but intelligently and efficiently, and is one of the most useful men on the committee.

GARDNER TOWNE

Was born in New Hampshire; came to Jefferson county in 1806, where he has lived most of the time since; he is a farmer, well-to-do in the world, and has frequently had proof of the confidence of his neighbors, who have given him almost every town and county office at their disposal. He is now serving his second term in the Senate; he was formerly a Democrat, is now a true Republican. It affords us pleasure to state, that he is a temperance man, and has been for many years; he delivered the first lecture on temperance in the county in which he resides; he attends the congregational church; is married; sixty years of age; has a large head, full, round, light eyes, a large face, and gray hair; a man of good judgment and excellent character.

INGHAM TOWNSEND

Is a native of the old Bay state, and came to this state in his infancy with his parents, who located in the town of Floyd, Oneida county, where king David Moulton, the monarch of the Democrats of that section lives. Mr. T. is a practical farmer, owning a fine estate, where he now lives; he has a dairy of 190 cows on his farms. Mr. Townsend has had some military experience, having been colonel of a regiment of cavalry. He is a Republican, and represents the Fourth District of Oneida county; he is on the agricultural committee; is an elder of the Presbyterian church; is a married man, but has no children of his own; he has, however, kindly cared for the children of others. One fine boy about three months old, was left at his door one wintry night about ten years ago (his parentage has not yet been discovered). Mr. T. is about getting an act passed to make this fortunate foundling, one of his legal heirs. A little girl, taken from the “home of the friendless” in New York, and the daughter of a relative—now a handsome, young lady, are also to share the munificence of this generous and humane man.

Mr. T. is fifty-eight years of age, of common size; has a calm, benevolent face, mild, blue eyes; is somewhat bald, and of the nervous, bilious temperament.

FRANKLIN TOWNSEND

Is one of the solid men of Albany—a rich man, and the son of a rich man. He deserves great credit for the manner in which he has devoted himself to intellectual culture. Unfortunately, many young men in his circumstances, instead of reading and thinking, and acting for themselves, would yield to the temptation of wealth and the lures of luxury, and become drones or dandies; but he is a practical business man, whose habits of industry are worthy of imitation. For several years he has been connected with one of the leading firms in Albany, in the iron trade. He has been mayor of the city which he now represents in the Assembly; was formerly a Whig, but for reasons best known to himself, he turned Democrat, and is now a leading and influential man in the Democratic party. In the House he is regarded a sound man, of liberal views, and his pithy and sensible speeches are always heard with respect. He is on the railroad committee, also on the militia and agricultural committee.

He is about forty years of age (although he looks much younger); of ordinary size and stature; has light brown hair, full, blue eyes, pale, intellectual features, and a brown goatee; is very urbane and pleasant in his address, and graceful and dignified in his deportment. He maintains a high social position, and is very popular in the city and county in which he lives. With his advantages and talents, he can climb higher rounds in the ladder of distinction.

ALONZO S. UPHAM,

Known throughout the state as the wagon-boy of Le Roy, was originally a carriage-maker, now does an immense business in Le Roy, where he is engaged in the manufacture of railroad cars; he is one of the best if not the best political manager in the Senate, and is rather acknowledged as the leader of the Republican party in that body. He introduced and carried through the Senate, the bill for changing the Canal policy of this state. His speeches are short pointed and practical. He is a man of great muscular power, being six feet in his stockings and well proportioned. He has dark hair, light eyes, a broad but not high forehead. He has been a member of the Assembly, and he now represents his district for the third time in the Senate. We should like to see him in Congress.

BLOOMFIELD USHER

Is a native of Herkimer Village, in the county of Herkimer. His father died when he was young, and having to depend upon his own resources, he acquired a knowledge of the hatting trade, which he afterwards carried on extensively on his own account. In the year 1851, he was appointed one of the superintendents on the Erie canal. At the expiration of the term of three years he moved to Pottsdam, St. Lawrence county, and commenced the banking business, which he has managed with marked success. Mr. Usher is forty-three years of age, of the sanguine, nervous, bilious temperament, of common stature, has black hair, sharp black eyes, red cheeks and smooth features; he is a man of ready business habits, a shrewd manager, a live politi-

cian, with fair prospects ahead. He is a good financier; in the Senate he is attentive to business and takes to legislating as though he had been born a senator. He represents the Fifteenth Senatorial District, is chairman on the committee of state prisons, on the committee of internal affairs of towns and counties, and on manufactures.

R. B. VAN VALKENBURGH.

The subject of our sketch was born in the county of Steuben, in this state, 1821, and is therefore now about thirty-five years of age. In 1836, he attended school at Auburn, and went from thence to the city of Buffalo, where he was a resident during the 'patriot' excitement, and was a member of the "City Guard," commanded by Capt. John T. Fay. During the prevalence of the Canada excitement, he enjoyed intimate relations with Gen. Sutherland, of the Patriot forces, and was tendered the appointment of aid to him, which he was prevented from accepting only through the influences and interpositions of his friends. However he did his share "on the right side," by aiding in cutting the steamer *Caroline* out of the ice in Buffalo harbor, and by a singular accident was prevented from being on board of her when she was destroyed by the Canadians.

Col. Van Valkenburgh is a lawyer by profession and commenced his studies in the office of the well known firm of Henry W. Rogers and Joseph G. Masten, of the city of Buffalo. In 1838, he returned to Steuben county, completing his (academic) education at an institution in Prattsburgh, in that county, and soon after resumed his law studies, with industry and perseverance, in the office of Hon. D. Rumsey, of Bath, being admitted in 1843, since which time he has been connected in business with Mr. R., meeting with much success in his profession. In 1854 and 1856, he was engaged, together with Hon. John H. Reynolds, of Albany, before the standing committee of the Senate, which had in charge the bill providing for the construction of a bridge across the Hudson river, at the city of Albany, and there the two met in battle array some of the best talents of the state, Hon. Joshua A. Spencer, Hon. Amasa J. Parker, and others. The result of that memorable contest in state legislation, before the committee and in both Houses, is well known—the committee reported favorably and the bill passed the Legislature and became a law. In 1854, a favorable report was first given by the Senate committee on that subject, although the matter had been before the Legislature, in different shapes, for nearly forty years.

In 1851, he was the Whig nominee for the Assembly, and, although the Democratic ticket succeeded about 400 majority in the District, he was returned by 130 majority over his opponent. He was again put on the course by his friends, in 1856—in face of his own declension, and was returned by about 1,250 majority over Hon. G. Denniston (Am.), who represented the District in the Legislature, last winter. In 1852, Mr. Van Valkenburgh was appointed colonel of the sixtieth regiment, New York state militia, and in 1855 was appointed by the governor of the state, as a member of the commission to make and adopt rules and regulations for the government of the state military forces.

Col. Van Valkenburgh, too, has been connected with that "art preservative of all arts," and was, in 1840—41, editor of *The Constitutional*, the Whig organ in the county of Steuben.

He is of good stature, and has a peculiarly melodious voice, very like that of Pierre Soule, ex-U. S. Senator and ex-minister to Spain, although the colonel is native "and to the manor born," and has not the "accent." He is a forcible debator, as we well remembered in the Assembly of 1852, and, he can be relied upon, is able to vindicate any position he may assume on any question. In the present House of Assembly he occupies a prominent position. As chairman of the committee which has under consideration matters pertaining to the city of New York, in which its good government, municipal and political is concerned. Personally Col. Van Valkenburgh is pleasing and agreeable, and has deserved all the kindness and confidence that he has received at the hands of his constituents and his friends.

We copy the above from the *New York Sun*. Mr. Van Valkenburgh is a tall handsome man, with dark hair and full dark eyes, even and ruddy features, and is really one of the most noticeable men in the House.

ADAM VAN ALLEN

Was born in the town of New Scotland, Albany county, is now 44 years old, and next the eldest of 6 brothers—all Republicans in the fullest sense of the word—were previously all Whigs, as was their father, who during his life time held various town offices. At the age of 14 he came to Albany with his whole patrimony (viz: a 5 franc piece, which he yet possesses), followed by his mother's prayers; is now engaged in the lumber trade and has been successful in all his business operations; is a member of the Reformed Dutch church in the city of Albany, as were his parents; has been alderman of the ward, in which he lived, afterwards supervisor two years, when he retired from business and devoted himself to agriculture for two years. Again returned to the city when his constituents again returned him to the board of supervisors for 3 successive years and until he positively declined being a candidate for any office. Mr. Van Allen is a man of sterling integrity and great moral worth, and extraordinary good sense, not a talker, but a worker. He is chairman of the committee on banks and a member of the committee of sixteen. In person he is rather of full habit, has a round healthy face, lit up with expressive eyes, wears "mutton chop" whiskers, and is somewhat bald on the crown. He is a self-made man and is one of the substantial men of the city of Albany. He has a host of friends in the House and commands a large amount of influence in the political and social circles in which he moves.

JOSEPH B. VARNUM, JR.

Was born at Washington, D. C., in the year 1817, and hence, has now arrived at the age of about forty years. He is the son of H. M. Varnum and the grandson of Gen. J. B. Varnum, who was for more than twenty years a member of Congress from Massachusetts, speaker of the House of Representatives, and president of the Senate. Speaker Varnum took with him to Washington his son James, who marrie

and settled there, becoming largely interested in property at the capital city, but died in 1821; and what is singular, is, that his father died on the same day at his residence in Massachusetts; the letters announcing their respective deaths having passed each other on their way. On the same day and month, twenty-five years afterward, his widow died, in the city of Washington; some 17 years previous to which she had married Hon. John Varnum, of Massachusetts, (a distant relative of her first husband) who went into Michigan, some twenty years ago, and died there. These particulars are given because of the fact that the subject of our sketch has frequently been set down as the son of Speaker Varnum, of John Varnum, and of an uncle of the same name, engaged in the mercantile business in New York, in distinction from whom he adds to his name "Junior." What might be added as an additional "coincidence" is, that both uncle and nephew married sisters; and hence some confusion has ensued from the identity of names and connections.

Of Mr. Varnum's early life we know but little. He graduated at "Old Yale" in 1838, studied law in the office of Chief Justice Taney, in Baltimore, where he was admitted to the bar, but subsequently moved to New York, where he entered into practice, and where he has met with success in his profession. In 1849, he was an advocate of Gov. Seward's election, and was himself returned to the Legislature (the same fall) where he took an active part in the well known "railroad controversies." He was again returned in 1850—'51, to the Assembly, and during the extra session of that year was speaker of that body, in the place of Mr. Raymond, who went upon a European tour. In 1852 he declined a re-election, and in 1853 was the Whig candidate for Congress in the Sixth District of the city of New York, but was beaten by John Wheeler (Dem.) and shared the fate of others, who "sailed in" on the Whig platform, but "went down" with Gen. Scott, and other Whig candidates "too numerous to mention," as they say in the handbills.

He was nominated in the fall of 1855, by the Americans, for Assembly, from the Fifteenth Ward, but declined, and Hon. Wm. A. Guest was nominated, who was elected over Hon. F. A. Conkling (Rep.) and the Democratic candidate, Mr. Guest, was re-nominated last fall by the Americans, but declined running, when Mr. Varnum was taken up by them, and elected. In the Fifteenth Ward (which comprises the 16th Assembly District), the American candidates were all defeated, except Mr. Varnum, who must have received some Republican and Democratic votes to elect him. In politics, Mr. Varnum has always been a Whig, and inclined to "Silver Grey," or what is called in more modern times, "Straight Whig" side, on the slavery question. He is understood to sympathize with the Americans in all their sentiments, but not in all their anti-catholic views, and agrees with the Republicans in condemning the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, and its result—but regards the general question of the extension of slavery in new territories as one which can only be properly settled by the Supreme Court of the United States, or by some

new compromise between the (so-called) sections of the Union, considering the constitutional question as not so clear on either side, and therefore as not properly the subject of political warfare. These conclusions are, probably, the result of his long residence on "neutral ground," the district of Columbia.

Mr. Varnum is very pleasing in his personal relations, and has certainly met with his due share of success in his political life. Politics, like railroad stocks, are fluctuating, and very uncertain, and, in our opinion, (judging from our own experience), one needs a great deal of fortitude and perseverance—not to say anything of energy and talent—to always ride triumphant on the wave of success. Mr. Varnum is an effective speaker, convincing more by the force of his reasoning than by eloquent peroration or passionate invective, and is as happy in his conclusions as he is forcible in argument. He is a member of the committee on ways and means and of the committee on the incorporation of cities and villages, and has a most arduous as well as a most responsible duty to perform.—*N. Y. Sun*.

Mr. Varnum is a fine looking man, has dark hair, touched with silver; wears a heavy beard, has an honest face, and wears spectacles, speaks with great earnestness and eloquence when interested in debate.

DAVID WHITNEY

Represents the First District in Greene county; is a merchant and manufacturer, keeps a coal yard, owns a sloop on the North River; is a Democrat, a temperance man, a deacon in the Dutch Reformed church. He is 47 years of age, has light hair and blue eyes; not a speaker; a very careful, cautious man. He is a member of the committee on trades and manufactures.

CHAUNCEY R. WEEKS

Was in the Assembly in 1848, and was, at that time, a Whig; he is now a Republican. His father was in the House forty-four years ago and effected the organization of Putnam county from Dutchess, and gave the grounds to the county for the county buildings.

Mr. Weeks is about forty-five years of age; was born in Putnam county. He learned a trade, but afterwards engaged in the menagerie business and imported large numbers of wild animals—lions, tigers, leopards, elephants, camels, &c., &c. He has also been engaged in mercantile pursuits. He owns a farm and has an interest in some of the boats on the North river.

He attends the Presbyterian church; is a man of fortune. He seldom speaks, but always votes according to his convictions of right and duty. He is an honest, upright, whole-souled man, of standing and character, whose word is as good as a bond. Although he does not take a very active, or, rather, noisy part in the proceedings of the House, he has none the less influence on that account. He is on the committee on state prisons.

He is a tall, well-formed man, quite gray; has a round, handsome face, brown eyes and pleasant address.

SETH WAKEMAN

Is one of the most efficient and influential members in the House, being an earnest, intelligent and untiring worker, a man of fine intellect and unexceptionable character, a ready debater and a cogent reasoner.

He is a self-made man; was left an orphan, his father dying during the last war, while in the service of his country.

He first learned a trade. When of age he was elected constable; being in a justice's office frequently, he, by force of circumstances, occasionally attended suits before a justice, and was finally persuaded by his friends to commence the study of law.

He was twenty-six years of age at the time he commenced reading law, and was elected justice of the peace, a position he held for several years. He now stands at the head of the bar as a jury lawyer in Genesee county.

He was district attorney six years, county treasurer one year, one of the superintendents of the poor two years.

He was a member last year, being elected in a district where the opposite party had previously carried the elections triumphantly. He stood by the prohibitory law then, and will this year discharge his duty conscientiously on the great subject of temperance.

He is chairman of the committee on commerce and navigation, and second on the judiciary and railroad committees.

He is a very agreeable, social man, well constituted to win friends and keep them. It is generally conceded, that he is one of the ablest men in the House.

In person he is of medium stature, has mild blue eyes, a pale pleasant face, light brown hair, and a well-developed head.

He speaks spontaneously, and with considerable unction.

JAMES WADSWORTH

Is a tall son of York, finely formed, with dark hair, large soul-lit eyes and pale features. He is perhaps the most eloquent man in the Senate, that is, he pays more attention to the rules of rhetoric and the flowers of speech, than any other man in that body. He is related to the great Wadsworth family living in the western part of the state, is a lawyer, about forty years of age and belongs to the purer class of politicians. He is a Democrat; is on the judiciary committee and the joint library committee; takes a deep interest in the Toll question and the affairs of Trinity Church. Mr. Wadsworth would attract notice in any deliberative assembly. As a speaker he would compare favorably with many of the most distinguished floor members of Congress.

JAMES WESTERVELT

Hails from New Jersey; went to the city of New York when about eleven years of age; is a mechanic, a master-builder. He now lives in Rockland county and represents it in the Assembly; has held many offices of honor and trust in the town where he resides and had sufficient popularity to defeat the combined forces of his political oppo-

nents. He is a fine, fresh looking man, in the prime of life; has a full, round, rosy face, blue eyes and brown hair; he is an agreeable man, fond of a joke but attentive to business; he is on the committee of expenditures of the House.

ARTHUR WOODS.

Mr. Woods is a valuable and useful member on the floor. His familiarity with parliamentary rules renders him a troublesome opponent, and at the same time enables him to frequently carry his point even against the opposition of a majority. The experience he has had in the House has been diligently improved, and he is never at a loss for a rule by which to support and enforce a point of order. In debate, there are few more ready speakers on the floor, and none more prompt in an off-hand, unpremeditated speech. His appearance is prepossessing and his voice good and style of speaking unequal, sometimes making capital hits, at other times sinking below his standard. Probably no member of the present session is more *troublesome* to the majority or more dreaded by them when any political party measure is before the House.

Mr. Woods has a ready flow of language, and a quick conception of his subject. He is never at a loss for words, and the facility with which he enters into the debate on any bill, evinces a good store of general information. In politics he is consistent and unyielding, always fighting to the "bitter end" for pure Democratic principles, and never setting aside his political sentiments for the sake of expediency. He is constantly in his seat, and entitles himself as much by his diligence and industry, as by his abilities, to the confidence of the important constituency he represents. The above was written by a reporter from New York.

Mr. W. is a native of New York, of Irish descent—was early left an orphan, and owing to a suit at law, the property left by his father was sacrificed. He, with his brother, however, by their industry, economy, and enterprise, acquired a handsome property. Mr. W. is a Catholic, a mechanic, a bachelor, a member of the committee on insurance.

JOHN H. WOOSTER

Has had some experience as a legislator. He is now serving his second term as a law-maker. He comes before the public with a good name, won by his lamented father in the front rank of true democracy. He is a practicing lawyer in the town of Newport, and is considered one of the ablest men in the profession in the county.

During the recent campaign, he rendered good service in the state of New York, and in the state of Pennsylvania, addressing thousands of persons, on the great issue involved in the presidential contest.

He has studied the political history of the country, and made himself thoroughly familiar with the great question, which absorbed all others in the late canvass. Mr. Wooster is a rigid reasoner, dry and logical; tropes, images and figures of rhetoric, seldom if ever embellish his speeches, but his arguments are sound, practical and con-

vincing. When assailed by an opponent, he can be very severe, and is disposed to lay on the lash without mercy.

We are not positive, but it is our impression that he is not in favor of the Maine law in all its provisions, although personally temperate in his habits. He is a small slender man, with light brown hair, blue eyes and a thin spare face.

He has every qualification for a leading member of the Legislature, and we have no doubt he will take a prominent part in the proceedings of the Legislature.

Mr. Wooster studied law with the Hon. Ezra Graves, and was elected to a seat in the state Legislature in 1857. He is a native of Newport, son of Judge S. Wooster, and is about 38 years of age.

OFFICERS OF THE HOUSE.

WILLIAM RICHARDSON,

Clerk, was born at Great Berkhamstead in the county of Hertfordshire, England (the birthplace of the poet Cowper). He is thirty-five years of age and the eldest of a family of nine children, six of whom are now living. When the subject of this sketch was five years of age, his father moved to London, where he resided seven years. Sailed for this country in 1834. On his arrival in this country, went to Ohio and was soon after apprenticed to the printing business at Mt. Vernon, worked at the business about twelve months, when the concern failed and he was obliged to leave; in '37 went into a store in the capacity of clerk.

In 1840 he moved to Albany which was then alive with the "log cabin" excitement. He was a Harrison boy and heartily sympathized with the Whigs. In '41 he was employed as clerk in the Hudson Street Temperance House, the next year he went into the umbrella business, sold out in '46 and opened a paper ware-house; was married in '44 to Miss Mary Freeman. He is a member of the Baptist church, was first Grand Worthy Associate of the Grand Division of S. of T. of Western New York, was a Liberty Party man in '44, a Free Democrat in '48, and Republican in '56. The following sketch of his personal appearance we copy from group of sketches in the "Ilion Independent."

"The very attitude of the one at the left of Ives, indicates one of the prominent traits of the man. He leans upon the table, as he leans upon his friends, confident that it will not fail him. His form is manly full, and perfect, in its development. He is healthy, in body and soul, and upon his broad, full face, and in his blue eye, there is stamped, in unmistakable language, the impress of our noblest manhood. Neither do his natures belie him, he is one of nature's noble men. The stranger would trust him, and boldly make a draft for kindness and truth, nor would the draft be dishonored. His complexion is as fair as a child's, his countenance as sunny and trusting. But the man is full grown and full of iron. We know of none who act more singly from their convictions of duty, or who have more moral courage. He is one of the world's tireless workers. In convention, or committee, or in the open field, he will perform more labor, in a given time, and more thorough-

ly and quietly, than any man we ever knew. He is prompt and clear headed, as a parliamentarian; in his hospitality unbounded; in his aid, to every good work, generous; in his friendships warm and unwavering. He never wearies, in carrying out his purposes; has a host of friends; and in his private and social relations, a complete and model man."

WILLIAM E. MILLS, *Assistant Clerk*, is from Clarence, Erie county. He is thirty-seven years of age, about the common stature; has a full, pleasant face, blue eyes and brown hair; he is a real good fellow, and true gentleman; he is unmarried.

A. N. COLE, *Engrossing Clerk*, is a thin, lathy man, with dark eyes and pale features. He is an able writer, and the editor of an influential journal in Wellsville. He is about thirty-eight years of age, a civil and obliging man. May his shadow never be less.

CORNELIUS S. UNDERWOOD, *Journal Clerk*.—His position is a laborious one, but he has performed its duties with entire satisfaction to all concerned. He is a practical printer, forty-two years of age; is tall and straight; has brown hair, blue eyes, and auburn whiskers. He resides in Auburn, Cayuga county. He has an army of friends in the House.

LUTHER CALDWELL, *Deputy Clerk*, is thirty-four years of age, married; a mechanic, in the employment of the New York & Erie railroad; a county politician, and a stump speaker—the grand expelled arch traitor to Fillmore Hindooism, others expelled for their independence being only ordinary traitors. Mr. C. is a man of average stature; has brown hair and whiskers, laughing eyes and a fluent tongue.

C. G. FAIRMAN, *Senior Deputy*, is just what his name implies, a *fair man*, save in complexion—that is dark, and his eyes are black as sloes. He is rather under the medium size, good-looking, polite and pleasant, frank and free from affectation. He has been connected with the press, and writes with considerable nerve and force. He is thirty-five years of age, and married; a printer by trade.

E. S. PAYNE, *Librarian*, is a gentlemanly man, quiet and dignified in his demeanor, short but trim built; has a light complexion and large, blue eyes. He has been superintendent on the canal, and has held other offices.

SMITH PHILIPS, *Assistant Librarian*, is from Montgomery county. He is a young man, formerly a Democrat; decimated while in the post office because of his Republican principles. He is quite lame; has dark hair, an open countenance and pleasant address.

N. P. HITCHCOCK is *Sergeant-at-Arms*. He is a native of Hinesburgh, Vt., born in 1810, was brought up to the trade of a machinist. He left the green mountain state when a child, and has since lived in Central New York; has kept hotel at Chenango and Utica for many years. Was formerly a Democrat, joined the Free Soilers in '48, and early united with the Republican party. He attends the Universalist church, is a married man, took to politics when a boy, was in the State Soft Convention at Syracuse at the time of the Short Boy row,

served as under sheriff in Chenango, and supervisor in Utica; speaks in public occasionally. He is traveling agent for J. D. Bridges, a hardware dealer. He is just the man for the post he occupies, is courteous and obliging, and yet preserves the best of order. He has a pleasant face, the index of a kind heart, is of nervous sanguine temperament, has blue eyes, and brown hair and whiskers. He is a universal favorite.

DANIEL M. PRESCOTT, *Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms*, was born in New Hartford; is 38 years of age, a farmer, was a Whig, attends the Universalist church, is a temperance man and a married man.

He is about five feet ten inches in height, of fair proportions, has brown hair, large blue eyes, a full, round face, is noted for his kindness and civility.

Mr. Prescott is a brother to Hon. Amos Prescott, who occupied a prominent position in the House in 1856.

GEORGE R. WALDRON, is the *Post Master*, a post he fills to the satisfaction of all persons connected with the House.

He was born in Mechanicsville, Saratoga county; is a practical printer and senior editor of the "Democratic Republican," an able and influential journal, published at Hamilton, Madison county.

He has been connected with the "Hamilton Eagle," and the "Hamilton Courier."

He was a Democrat up to the time of the Cincinnati convention, when he bolted at the nomination of Buchanan.

Is a member of the Congregational church; is a temperance man from principle, in theory and practice.

He is forty years of age, has a full forehead, light brown hair, light blue eyes and a pale face. He is a quiet, modest man, and commands a ready and vigorous pen.

HUGH MAGEE, *Assistant Postmaster*, is a native of Ontario county; now lives in Steuben county; is 60 years of age, upwards of six feet in height, weighs about 170 pounds; has been a printer. He, with his father and two brothers, was engaged in the war in 1812; was in six different engagements, and was severely wounded in the battle of Long Woods, Canada; is a pensioner; was a radical Democrat in the days of Clinton and Tompkins; always opposed slavery; attends the Methodist church. Is always at his post, and is universally respected for boldness, benevolence and integrity.

GURDON B. TAYLOR, *Janitor*, was born in Delaware county, 1819, now hails from Orleans county; is a farmer; was a Democrat, taking Free Soil ground, in 1848; joined the Republicans when their party was inaugurated; is a temperance man; attends the Baptist church; in person is of ordinary stature, hair dark, eyes grayish blue, face rather thin; wears heavy whiskers; is very prompt and attentive to business, and is very highly esteemed; although a young man, he is now living with his second wife.

JOHN F. CURTIS, *Keeper of the Assembly Chamber*, was born in the town of Norway, Herkimer county, N. Y., in 1801; by the death of a fond father, was left in early life dependent on his own resources,

for support. Being possessed of a kind and amiable disposition, with firmness and conscientiousness large, and self-esteem low; his qualities and worth are only to be known and appreciated by acquaintance and observation. His business has been mechanical and mercantile; has held most of the town offices, and is now supervisor of the town where he resides.

He acted with the Democratic party until 1848, when a sense of justice impelled him to advocate the Free Soil principles, in which he has been constant and active, and consequently is now a Republican. He is now fifty-five years of age; is five feet nine inches high; has black eyes, dark hair, and light complexion. He resides in the town of Huron, Wayne county, N. Y.

NATHAN NEWHAFFER, *Door-Keeper*, is a native of Wittenberg, Germany—the famous town where Martin Luther nailed his thesis to the church door. Mr. N. came to this country in 1844. He is a general agent for the sale of land and insurance; lives in the city of Rochester; is forty-one years of age; has dark hair and dark eyes; speaks with the peculiar accent of his people. He is a married man; is an Israelite, a very polite and agreeable person. Has held office in Rochester.

JOHN LEWIS is one of the *Assistant Door-Keepers*, a post he filled with credit three years since. Mr. L. is a native of Wales; came to this country twenty-three years ago, and located in Oneida county, where he followed farming. He now lives in Cattaraugus county, where he “speculates” in butter and cheese. Mr. L. is a pleasant, sociable, polite old gentleman, sixty years of age, is short and stout-built; has gray hair, a full face, blue eyes and bushy eye-brows. His door is directly back of our desk, and we have frequent opportunities to test his urbanity. He is strict and faithful, and performs the functions of his office to the very letter without giving offence to any. Long may he wave (the gate).

He has been a member of the Baptist church for forty-two years, and has been a deacon in the church for more than twenty years. He was, originally a Whig, is now a Republican; has labored industriously and successfully among the Welsh—an estimable class of citizens—among whom he occupies a prominent position.

SLUMAN FRINK was born in Albany county; is forty years of age; formerly a Whig, now a Republican; attends the Presbyterian church; is a married man; has fair hair, blue eyes, and pale complexion. He takes the place of PATRICK FARREL, *First Assistant Door-Keeper*.

A. A. HARRIS, *Door-Keeper of the Gentlemen's Gallery*, is from Erie county; is forty years of age; attends the Orthodox church; was door-keeper in 1849; was assistant engineer in 1850, when the Capitol went by steam.

A. H. STOUTENBURGH has charge of the *Ladies' Gallery*, was born in the city of New York, is fifty years of age; was brought up a merchant; formerly a Whig; has held office under the general government, is an earnest politician; is five feet nine inches in height erect and of

good build; has blue eyes and dark hair, dresses fashionably and waits upon the ladies politely.

S. WHEELER is one of the *Assistant Door-Keepers*, the only officer who was reappointed, he having served in that capacity last year; he probably owes that compliment to his urbanity, and uniform courtesy, and the efforts of his friends. He is from Dover, is thirty years of age and is a merchant. He was formerly a Whig, is now a Republican; attends the Baptist church, is married, has been justice and supervisor, also one of the associate judges of the county of Dutchess; he is rather under the medium size, has light complexion, brown hair, and blue eyes, attends properly to his business, and treats all with that civility which is so cheap and yet so scarce among men who occupy official position.

S. H. ROGERS is one of the *Assistant Door-Keepers*, a native of Sidney Plains, Delaware. He is twenty-five years of age; is a Republican, attends the Presbyterian church; he is a tall, strong man, has brown hair and blue eyes and is very attentive to the duties of his office.

NATHAN CHAMBERLAIN, *Assistant Door-Keeper*, is from Jefferson county, occupied the same post in 1852, was a Whig, attends the Methodist church, is a farmer, is 44 years of age, a married man, has auburn hair, blue eyes, full face, and a generous nature.

OFFICERS OF THE SENATE.

The crowded state of our pages preclude the possibility of our doing justice to the gentlemanly officers of the Senate. For sketches in *extenso* see the "Illion Independent," where the history of each one will be written elaborately.

SAMUEL P. ALLEN, *Clerk of the Senate*, is the editor of the Rochester Democrat, is a practical printer, about forty years of age, a native of Chenango county; he is a man of sound judgment and a good political writer.

JAMES TERWILLEGAR, *Journal Clerk*, has been connected with the press; is about thirty years of age.

CHARLES R. DAYTON, *Engrossing Clerk*, is a farmer, about thirty-three years of age; has been deputy before.

WALDO M. POTTER is *Miscellaneous Clerk and Assistant Clerk in reading*, a practical printer, editor and lawyer, thirty-three years of age.

DEWITT S. STANFORD is also a *Miscellaneous Clerk*; has been a trader; is about thirty-six years of age.

E. D. WEBSTER, *Librarian*, is a printer and editor and reporter.

SAMUEL R. TUELL, *Sergeant-at-Arms*, is freight master at the depot in Syracuse, is about thirty-five years of age.

DAVID EVERETT, *Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms and Post Master*, is about forty years of age.

W. COPPERNOLL, *Door-Keeper*, is a farmer, about forty years of age.

NATHANIEL GOODWIN and H. W. SHIPMAN are *Assistant Door-Keeper*s.

N. FINNEGAN is a *Messenger* and has charge of the Senate documents.

20



